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THE JOINT BOARD  
Joint Intelligence Committee  
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

APRIL

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 141                  Copy 1 of 57.

8:00 A.M.,    30    April, 1942.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

33355

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U.S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from competent official sources.

1. INDIAN THEATER.

Burma. British and Chinese forces on the west front were, on the 27th, withdrawing to a new line extending generally from slightly south of MANDALAY to the west of that city along the north bank of the IRRAWADDY. A strong Japanese force is pressing Chinese forces on the central front. The enemy is reported to have captured MEIKTILA. To the east, Chinese forces, with recent reinforcements, are moving toward LOILEM in an effort to strike the Japanese near LASHIO. J.I.C. Comment: The foregoing information, the latest official news from BURMA, is based upon dispatches on the situation as of 27 April. There have been no more recent reports on the status of LASHIO (Summary No. 140).

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

Philippines. Yesterday's bombing of CORREGIDOR constituted the 100th such enemy attack that the island has experienced in the 19 days since the fall of BATAAN.

Hostile forces, despite heavy losses, effected a landing at PARANG (southwest MINDANAO, north of COTABATO). Two hostile destroyers and enemy airplanes supported the landing, which was made from five transports.

Melanesia. Japanese bombers escorted by fighters attacked SEVEN MILE AIRDROME near PORT MORESBY on the 28th. Runways were damaged and a small fuel dump destroyed. One enemy bomber was probably destroyed and another damaged. Two of our pursuit planes crashed and one was badly damaged.

U.S. Army bombers attacked the LAE AIRDROME on 28 April, scoring direct hits on buildings and possibly on an ammunition dump on the field.

Southwest Pacific. An enemy submarine was sighted 540 miles east of NOUMEA, NEW CALEDONIA.

Alaska. There are some indications of Japanese interest in the ALASKAN-ALEUTIAN theater. This interest is probably the result of drastic defense measures aimed to prevent future air attacks on JAPAN similar to the reported raids of 18 April. In line with these measures, Japanese offensive action to neutralize the ALEUTIAN ISLANDS as an approach route has at least been considered.

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3. ATLANTIC THEATER.

German Ships. The pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER left her usual berth in TRONDHEIM FIORD between the afternoon of 28 April and the following forenoon. More positive information concerning her movements is lacking. TIRPITZ, HIPPER, and PRINZ EUGEN are believed still to have been in the FIORD on 29 April.

Submarines. No material change. There have been further indications of the presence of a supply vessel in the vicinity of the West African Coast. According to reports considered to be reliable, an enemy submarine was positively identified in the harbor of MARTINIQUE on 28 April.

Raiders. The fact that several vessels are overdue and unaccounted for appears to be a further indication that at least one enemy raider is operating in the South ATLANTIC (Summary No. 120).

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER.

British Air Operations. On the night of 27/28 April 100 tons of high explosive and incendiaries, including 30 one-ton bombs, were dropped on COLOGNE, with excellent results. On the same night 92 tons of high explosive were dropped on the naval base at TRONDHEIM, where, it is claimed, four heavy bombs fell near the TIRPITZ, two being hits or very near misses. On the following night 34 aircraft were dispatched against TRONDHEIM and 91 against KIEL. ST. OMER was attacked by day on the 28th.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

J.I.C. Comment: According to the press, heavy fighting continues, despite the thaw, but there has been no change in the situation. It has been suggested that the Russians would seek to delay the expected German offensive by maintaining their pressure.

6. AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

Malta. 176 escorted bombers attacked, 27/28 April.

Cirnaica. British patrols have obtained several local successes.

*A. Sidney Buford III*  
A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
Captain, F. A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 140 Copy 1 of 57.

8:00 A.M., 29 April, 1942.

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33366

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1. INDIAN THEATER.

Burma. As late as the morning of the 28th, unconfirmed CHUNGKING reports stated that LASHIO was still in Chinese hands. An earlier report from other sources confirmed the Chinese recapture of TAUNGGYI. J.I.C. Comment: The general picture is obscure. The press states that MAYMYO (northeast of MANDALAY) has been evacuated by the Burmese civil governments and that the Japanese have re-entered TAUNGGYI. The situation grows more critical each moment and it is feared that the rains (reported as having begun) may not have entirely the effect desired.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

Indo-China. The VICHY Foreign Office has informed the U.S. Ambassador in VICHY that the Japanese naval authorities have SEIZED 90,000 tons of French merchant shipping now in Far Eastern waters, leaving VICHY authorities in INDO-CHINA 10,000 tons of shipping for use in INDO-CHINA coastal trade. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that a large degree of responsibility rested with the U.S. Government for this act on the part of the Japanese.

Melanesia. On the 26th U.S. Army bombers attacked an enemy convoy of three transports, two destroyers and two submarines approximately 90 miles southeast of KAVIENG, scoring one direct hit and five near misses on a 6,000 ton transport and possible near misses on another transport. Three other transports were observed in the general vicinity of RABAUL. On the 27th five more merchant ships and one large transport were observed in the vicinity of KAVIENG.

*New Ireland*

Japanese Navy. The focus of naval activity remains in the TRUK-NEW BRITAIN area. The movement of certain units southward from TRUK is believed due more to the rising Allied threat than to immediate offensive action. It appears that the execution of operations planned by the Japanese Navy at this time in the RABAUL area has been complicated by continual Allied air raids and by the probable proximity of Allied task forces. Present indications, however, reflect the determination of the Japanese Navy to gain air and surface supremacy; to that end, at the expense of other theaters, aircraft in particular are continually being drawn into this area, where the trend is definitely toward a "show-down" in the near future.

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Australia. Seventeen Japanese bombers, escorted by nine fighters, attacked the FORT DARWIN AIRDROME 27 April. Buildings, roadways and power lines were severely damaged. Our pursuit planes shot down three enemy bombers and four fighters and probably destroyed two more. One of our pursuit planes was shot down and three are missing.

Far Eastern Waters. A U.S. submarine on patrol in FAR EASTERN waters sank one enemy tanker of medium size and one small freighter.

The British Admiralty estimates that 250,000 tons of Japanese shipping has been sunk since hostilities began.

Philippines. No appreciable change.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER.

Submarines. No material change.

Norwegian Coast - Trondheim. No information has been received through official channels concerning the air raids on TRONDHEIM reported in the press.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER.

Air Operations. During the day, 27 April, LILLE and OSTEND were bombed. That night COLOGNE and DUNKIRK were attacked. J.I.C. Comment: While the night bombing of DUNKIRK has been on a lesser scale than that directed against ROSTOCK, attacks have been as persistent. In the four attacks on ROSTOCK and the Heinkel Works approximately 650 tons of high explosives and incendiaries were dropped, with excellent effect.

5. AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

*East of Takoradi in Togoland* → Dahomey. Further reconnaissance at 50 feet revealed no planes at KOTONU (cf. Summaries 134 and 138). The two antiaircraft guns did not fire. The other Vichy-French airdrome at LOME is blocked and unusable. J.I.C. Comment: This report relieves certain apprehensions regarding security of the ferry route.

Malta. During 26/27 April 125 escorted bombers attacked. Fighter reinforcements have arrived.

Cirenaica. Patrol activity continues. From the coast near TMIMI to the SIDI BREGISC area, the enemy is blasting and erecting wire in the evident preparation of a strong defensive position. This front is occupied by the German Light Division with interspersed units of the Trento Division.

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The two German armored divisions are behind them in the TUAZIL-ELEBA-AFRAG-CHECHIBAN quadrangle (20 to 40 miles west of GAZALA). Recently the Pavia and Brescia Divisions have extended the front southward to EL TEILEM (35 miles WNW from BIR HACHEIM). They are supported by the Ariete (armored) Division in the SEGnali area. The Trieste (motorized) Division is the MECHILI-HAGFET EL GELGAF area (65 to 95 miles west of GAZALA). The Sabrata Division is in the BENGHAZI-AGEDABIA area, and the Bologna Division is in the vicinity of EL AGHEILA. Part of the Littorio (armored) Division is in the TRIPOLI-MISURATA area.

J.I.C. Comment: These Axis dispositions appear to be of a defensive nature. As long as MALTA absorbs the attention of the greater portion of the German Mediterranean air force, major Axis offensive action in CIRENAICA is unlikely.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

Nothing to report.

*A. Sidney Buford III*

A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
Captain, F. A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 139            Copy 1 of 57.

8:00 A.M.,        28 April, 1942.

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1. INDIAN THEATER.

Burma. A hostile motorized column reached LASHIO late on the 26th. J.I.C. Comment: This column undoubtedly is that reported in Summary No. 137 as proceeding toward LAIHK. If yesterday's press report of a successful Chinese attack on TAUNGGYI is correct (it has not yet been confirmed), the Japanese forces reaching LASHIO may be, at least temporarily, cut off from their main body. In any event, the gravity of the situation is apparent.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

Philippines. Hostile action against our fortified islands has slackened. In northern LUZON there has been some southward and northward movements of enemy forces in the CAGAYAN VALLEY. To the south, the Japanese in CEBU and PANAY appear to be content for the moment with their control of the principal coastal roads and towns. Enemy transports under naval protection continue to move about in VISAYAN waters.

Melanesia. Enemy aerial operations in the vicinity of PORT MORESBY continue on an increased scale. Three airfields near PORT MORESBY were attacked by enemy bombers or fighters and six Allied dive bombers were destroyed and two others damaged. The enemy lost one plane.

Allied air activity on 24/25 April was also on an increased scale. Bombing attacks were carried out at BUKA ISLAND airdrome and FAISI (both in the SOLOMON ISLANDS). The enemy airfield at LAE was attacked twice and two enemy planes were destroyed (certain) and three others were probably destroyed. All of our planes returned safely.

There are indications that some surface vessels may be enroute to RABAUL from TRUK (Japanese. MANDATES). While it is evident that no task force is ready for a major offensive in MELANESIA, the occupation of TULAGI (SOLOMON ISLANDS) is expected at an early date, and an attack on PORT MORESBY is possible soon thereafter. In the meanwhile, heavy bombing raids on PORT MORESBY and PORT DARWIN are anticipated.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER.

Submarines. There is no evidence of a material change in the situation. A U.S. cargo vessel (apparently a bauxite ship) was torpedoed in the CARIBBEAN on 26 April about 80 miles NNE of BONAIRE. This is the first vessel at-

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tacked in the CARIBBEAN since 16 April. It brings up to six the total of attacks reported to have occurred during April in the CARIBBEAN or close to the eastward of it. About as many attacks have occurred during April in the general vicinity of CAPE HATTERAS as have occurred in all the rest of the ATLANTIC THEATER west of the longitude of the AZORES (see Summary No. 131), but during the past ten days the attacks have tended to take place farther off shore, principally within a sector extending from NE to ESE of HATTERAS.

German Ships. Positive information indicates that TIRPITZ, SCHEER, HIPPER, and PRINZ EUGEN were still in TRONDHEIM FIORD on 27 April. No reports have been received concerning other major units.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER.

British Air Operations. The fourth successive night attack on ROS-TOCK and the Heinkel Works, 26/27 April, was made by 107 bombers. Results have been excellent. Attacks in the coastal region were continued with daylight bombing of ST. OMER and HAZEBROUCK, 26 April, and the third successive attack on DUNKIRK that night.

Five bombers reached PILSEN, 26/26 April, but, because of cloud conditions, only one attacked the target. (Cf. Summary No. 138).

5. AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

French North Africa. It is reported from ALGIERS that in that port a small tanker, ostensibly Spanish, but actually German, loaded fuel oil from a French tanker and departed, during the night of 25 April, for TRIPOLI.

Malta. Correction: It is now reported that during 23/25 April 418 bombers attacked. (Summary No. 138 reported 245.) During the 21 hours ending at 12:30 P.M., 26 April, an additional 139 bombers attacked.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

No change in the situation.

*A. Sidney Buford III*  
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Captain, P. A.  
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-2-

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33365

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

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1. INDIAN THEATER.

Indian Ocean. On the 23d, R.A.F. air reconnaissance of PORT BLAIR, ANDAMAN ISLANDS, revealed five enemy flying boats, but no ships, in the harbor.

Burma. As late as the 25th, the BURMA situation was very serious. Chinese forces which moved to TAUNGGYI in an attempt to block the northward Japanese drive before it reached that place did not arrive in time. No official report has been received as to the result of their subsequent counterattack from the west (Summary No. 137). In the center the Chinese appear to have fallen back toward PYAWBWE (15 miles north of YAMETHIN). The front west of MEIKTILA is quiet. J.I.C. Comment: The enemy successes in the TAUNGGYI area constitute a serious threat to LASHIO, which would be considerably relieved if the above mentioned Chinese attack on TAUNGGYI were successful. (The press this morning reports that the Chinese have recaptured TAUNGGYI).

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

Melanesia. On the 24th there was considerable enemy air activity in the vicinity of PORT MORESBY. Fifteen enemy fighters attacked SEVEN MILE airdrome, destroying three Allied planes. One enemy plane was probably destroyed. Ten enemy fighters made an unsuccessful attack on shipping in the harbor.

Eight Japanese planes carried out raids 25 April against various points in the SOLOMON ISLANDS. Some damage was sustained on GAVUTU ISLAND, but no damage was reported from attacks on TANAMBOGO ISLAND and TULAGI.

There are indications of the immediate reinforcement of Japanese air strength in the MELANESIAN area.

Australia. On 25 April, 24 enemy bombers, escorted by 9 fighters, raided PORT DARWIN, damaging the public utility facilities of the city and inflicting a few personnel casualties. Eight enemy bombers and three fighters were shot down. Four Allied planes were slightly damaged.

J.I.C. Comment: This heavy raid and other air activity in MELANESIA is believed to be the opening phase of a Japanese air offensive in the AUSTRALIAN sphere, and further heavy air activity may be expected. While there is no indication that sufficient land and sea forces are at present

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in position for a large scale enemy invasion of northern AUSTRALIA and MELANESIA, a landing operation against PORT MORESBY remains a probability, when and if the Japanese gain control of the air over NEW GUINEA.

Gilbert Islands. On the 25th, Japanese bombers attacked ABEMANA ISLAND in the GILBERTS. No damage or casualties resulted.

Philippines. Enemy air activity over our harbor forts was light, but hostile fire from batteries on BATAAN and MANILA BAY's south shore continued heavy. Japanese attacks were repulsed in the center and southwestern parts of PANAY, and hostile units in those sectors have withdrawn slightly.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER.

Submarines. A reduction, probably of a temporary nature, seems to have occurred in the number of enemy submarines operating in NORTH AMERICAN coastal waters. It appears that about 8 submarines are now homeward bound from those waters and some 13 or more are outward bound to replace them. The total number in longitudes west of the AZORES is apparently still about 30.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER.

Air Operations. During the night of 24/25 April 84 tons of high explosive and 75 tons of incendiaries were dropped on ROSTOCK and the Heinkel Works. On the following night 128 bombers were dispatched against the same target. Indications are that all attacks on this area have been most successful. J.I.C. Comment: Press reports state that ROSTOCK and the Heinkel Works were attacked for the fourth successive night, 26/27 April.

DUNKIRK received 74 tons of high explosive on the night of 24/25 April and 32 bombers were dispatched against the same target on the following night. During daylight on the 25th attacks were general in the coastal region from CHERBOURG to DUNKIRK.

On the night of 25/26 April six bombers were dispatched against the Skoda Works at PILSEN. Only one reached the objective.

On the same night 80 German bombers attacked the BRISTOL-BATH area. J.I.C. Comment: This is the heaviest German aerial counterattack this year. Hitler has threatened full retaliation for British raids. Were he to make good the threat, it would constitute a significant diversion of air strength from RUSSIA.

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5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

Heavy rains have bogged down the entire front. Spring is unusually late.

6. AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

Dahomey. The 22 pursuit planes previously reported at KOTONU (Summary No. 134) have disappeared.

Malta. During the 48 hours ending at 1:15 P.M., 25 April, 245 bombers, with fighter escort, attacked, causing serious damage.

*Sidney Buford III*

A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 137 Copy 2 of 57.

8:00 A.M., 26 April, 1942.

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1. INDIAN THEATER.

Burma. The Japanese now hold the road from TAUNGGYI to LOILEM, and elements of their forces have penetrated northeast toward LAIHKKA (about 32 miles northeast of LOILEM). Chinese forces are counterattacking against TAUNGGYI from the west. In the center, the Chinese are reported heavily engaged 10 miles south of YAMTHIN (22 miles north of TATKON). In the west British troops are concentrating in the TAUNGTHA area (39 miles northwest of MEIKTILA), with Chinese and other British forces generally to the west of MEIKTILA. Hostile air attacks continue. J.I.C. Comment: The foregoing in general confirms yesterday's press reports (Summary No. 136), although Allied forces have apparently been forced to make slightly more extensive withdrawals than were indicated. While there is activity elsewhere, the fighting on the Allied right flank seems to have died down.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

Philippines. No more recent information has been received.

Melanesia. The Japanese are reported to have occupied KOMIATUN (7 miles south of SALAMAUA) on 23 April.

On the 23d and 24th, enemy planes carried out extensive reconnaissance over a wide area around PORT MORESBY. SEVEN MILES airdrome at PORT MORESBY was attacked by Japanese bombers on 23 April. The harbor area of the town was bombed the following day and a moored Catalina was destroyed. Of the six Allied fighters which intercepted the hostile planes in the latter attack, three were lost. Two Japanese fighters were probably destroyed and two damaged.

Two Allied aircraft unsuccessfully attacked three Japanese transports in TALILI BAY (northeast NEW BRITAIN, near RABAUL). On the same day three Allied planes attacked wharf installations at RABAUL. Incendiaries fell on wharves, transports and buildings. Several fires were observed, including one on a ship. One enemy fighter was attacked and damaged. Eight Japanese transports were observed in this area.

China. It is believed that the Japanese are either preparing or have already begun to move south in several columns from points on the HANGCHOW-NINGPO railway. Apparently their object is to clear the CHEFKIANG-KIANGSI province of Chinese forces.

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Japanese Navy. Although it is not certain, it is believed that search operations by the Japanese Fleet in the northwest PACIFIC have been abandoned. However, Japanese radio has been active several times recently within a radius of 1000 miles of HONOLULU.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER.

Submarines. The situation is not materially changed except as follows: From one to three submarines, thought to be Italian, are believed to be operating off the north coast of BRAZIL. There are indications that these submarines recently obtained fuel and provisions from the supply vessel (off the west coast of AFRICA) mentioned in Summary No. 135. There are some indications of an impending increase in the number of submarines operating in the CARIBBEAN Area.

German Ships. The following positive information has been obtained concerning the locations of major German naval units on 25 April: TIRPITZ, ADMIRAL SCHEER, HIPPER, and PRINZ EUGEN still at TRONDHEIM; battleship SCHARNHORST and light cruiser NURNBERG still at KIEL; heavy cruiser SEYDLITZ still at BREMEN; light cruiser KOELN still at WILHELMSHAVEN. While positive information is lacking as to the locations of other major German naval units on 25 April, no information has been received to indicate that any recent movements have taken place.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER.

British Air Operations. During the night of 23/24 April 91 tons of high explosive and about 110 tons of incendiaries were dropped on ROSTOCK and an additional 28 tons of high explosive were dropped on the nearby Heinkel Works. On the following night 125 bombers were dispatched against the same objectives. Both attacks are believed to have accomplished excellent results. FLUSHING was bombed by day on the 24th and DUNKIRK was attacked by 47 bombers that night.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

Nothing to report.

6. MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

Malta. No air attacks reported. J.I.C. Comment: Axis air attack on MALTA has occurred in waves of slightly varying intensity. During the week of 2/9 April there were 1,562 sorties; during the next week, 9/16 April, only 850. A total of 1,021 bombers have been reported over MALTA during the week 16/23 April. Within that week the daily scale of attack followed the curve indicated by the figures: 0, 110, 200, 240, 175, 166, 130, 0.

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The scale of aerial bombardment indicated is heavier than that required for neutralization only. It is believed that the German objective is to soften the defense, to deny the replenishment of food and other supplies, and to force eventual surrender of the island without an actual assault (unless the defense deteriorates to such a degree that one would be easy and cheap).

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Captain, F. A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

-3-

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 136 Copy 1 of 57.

8:00 A.M., 25 April, 1942.

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1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. There has been no communication with DIEGO GARCIA ISLAND (about 1000 miles southwest of COLOMBO) since 19 April.

India-China. An air ferry service is being extended by the U.S. Army Air Force from KARACHI, INDIA to CHINA. J.I.C. Comment: This completes the Army-around-the-world ferry route with the exception of a link between AUSTRALIA and some point on the Asiatic mainland.

Burma. J.I.C. Comment: To noon of the 24th, no official information on the BURMA situation had been received in LONDON; nor has any reached WASHINGTON as late as this morning. CHUNGKING communique, however, indicate that the Japanese drive north of LOIKAW (Summary No. 134) has penetrated as far north as HOPONG, about 10 miles east of TAUNGGYI and 80 miles north of LOIKAW. (TAUNGGYI is 100 miles southeast of MANDALAY). In the center, according to the same source, the Chinese have fallen back to TATKON, 25 miles north of PYINMANA. On the Allied right flank, the situation appeared relatively unchanged, with British troops north of TAUNGWINGYI and Chinese and British forces still engaged in the YENANGYAUNG area.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Melanesia. In the NEW BRITAIN area aircraft continues to arrive, but to date there are no indications of any material increase in combatant or merchant vessels. Increased Japanese attention is being directed toward the various islands in the South PACIFIC under control of the United Nations, and further advances are expected soon.

Japan. According to a Russian source the recent air-raid on JAPAN is said to have resulted in large fires in KOBE with damage to important industrial areas in the TOKYO-YOKOHAMA district. All communications were interrupted and the moral effect on the population was large. J.I.C. Comment: This information should be accepted with reserve.

Japanese Navy. The Japanese 5th Fleet, Home Defense Forces, and submarines are believed to be continuing search operations off the east coast of JAPAN. No new developments are noted.

Hawaii. J.I.C. Comment: Further information indicates that the three planes reported in the vicinity of HAWAII (Summary No. 135) were friendly planes.

Philippines. No substantial change.

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3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. No material change in the situation is evident. Activity in the western part of the ATLANTIC THEATER still appears to be greatest from the Latitude of CAPE HATTERAS north.

German Ships. The battleship TIRPITZ, the pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER, and the heavy cruisers HIPPER and PRINZ EUGEN are believed still to have been in TRONDHEIM FIORD on 24 April.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

British air operations. On the night of 22/23 April 100 tons of high explosives and incendiaries were dropped in the COLOGNE area and large fires were seen. The following night 161 aircraft were dispatched against ROSTOCK. Preliminary reports indicate a successful attack.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. Heavy air attack continues.

Cirenaica. No change in the situation.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Nothing to report.

*A. Sidney Buford III*

A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
Captain, F.A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

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No. 135            Copy 1 of 57.

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1. INDIAN THEATER

Madagascar. Press reports indicate a virtual reign of terror at MADAGASCAR. Hundreds of Free French are said to have been arrested.

Burma. No further reports on the situation have been received.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. The enemy holds the east coast towns of CEBU from CEBU City south about 70 miles to DALAGUETE and the west coast towns from TOLEDO (directly west of CEBU City) south approximately 40 miles to DUMANJUGA.

No material change elsewhere.

Melanesia. With the exception of an attack on shipping and wharves at RABAU, which resulted in possible damage to the docks, Allied air activity on the 21st and 22nd was confined to reconnaissance missions.

Two unidentified vessels, probably destroyers, were reported approximately 120 miles southeast of PORT MORESBY. The Japanese have dispatched natives (fifth columnists) from FAISI to GIZO and CHOISEUL ISLANDS (in the SOLOMON Group) to calm the natives in those islands preparatory to Japanese occupation.

Japanese Mandates. There is evidence of an increase in the number of combatant ships concentrating in the TRUK area.

South Pacific. An enemy submarine was sighted in the area Lat. 9-33 S., Long. 171-25 W. (approximately 250 miles north of APIA, British SAMOA).

Japanese Navy. It is believed that Japanese naval units are continuing the search in the northwest PACIFIC and that air patrols from MARCUS and WAKE ISLANDS are being maintained through northerly sectors.

There is no present indication of any imminent carrier operations outside of the TRUK-MELANESIAN theater.

China. Increased Japanese military and air activity is reported in the CHEKIANG area (south and west of SHANGHAI). It is believed that the Japanese will attempt to seize airfields in western CHEKIANG and eastern KIANGSI provinces.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74

By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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Hong Kong. The naval and commercial dockyards at HONG KONG are working full-time repairing Japanese ships.

Russia. On the 18th a U. S. Army bomber made a forced landing at an airfield in PRIMORSKAYA PROVINCE, SIBERIA. According to the crew they had been forced to land because they did not have fuel enough to reach their objective in central CHINA after their raid on JAPAN. The plane has been seized by the Soviets and the crew (five men) interned at KHABOROVSK.

J.I.C. Comment: The Soviet military authorities requested our diplomatic authorities in RUSSIA to refrain from disclosing this information to the press. Yesterday the MOSCOW radio broadcast this information in the French and German languages and Tass, the official Russian news agency, released added details of this incident.

Hawaiian Islands. At 2030 G.C.T. (10:00 A.M. Hawaiian time) 22 April, three Japanese naval bombers were reported heading east in an area 30 miles northwest of HAWAII. No contact resulted.

### 3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. The maximum enemy submarine activity in the part of this theater west of the longitude of the AZORES appears now to have shifted slightly northward to an area within about 300 miles of the U. S. coast between the latitudes of LONG ISLAND and CAPE HATTERAS.

There have recently been strong indications of the presence of a submarine supply vessel off the west coast of AFRICA about 500 miles southeast of FREETOWN.

### 4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

Boulogne. The commando raid, 22 April, was minor in character and failed to attain its objectives. Enemy resistance prevented one party from landing. Another got ashore unopposed and accomplished some reconnaissance, but did not reach its objective. It suffered one slight casualty. The naval escort damaged one enemy trawler and left another on fire. British naval casualties were slight and no vessel was damaged. J.I.C. Comment: This report deflates significantly the sensational press accounts of the raid.

### 5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

A general estimate of the situation places 250 Soviet divisions in the West, 20 in the Caucasus, 50 in the Far East, and 55 in training. A total of 5,000 planes and the equivalent of 35 tank brigades are stated to be available. Supplies are sufficient, except for planes, tanks, and foodstuffs. In particular, employment of women provides sufficient manpower for both military and industrial purposes. Extensive defense works constructed west of the VOLGA and removal of factory units to VOLGA towns indicate that Soviets do not expect to be driven that far. They are morally prepared, however,

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to resist all the way to the URALS. The loss of MOSCOW would not be so disastrous now as in December. Loss of the CAUCASUS would be damaging, but not decisive. Simultaneous attack on two fronts would create a dangerous situation, but the Soviets will fight on as long as Stalin lives and sees hope of outside aid, direct or indirect.

6. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. During the 24 hours ending at 13:49 April 22, 166 bombers, with fighter escort, attacked the airdromes.

Cirenaica. No change in the situation.

*A. Sidney Buford III*

A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
Captain, P.A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 134 Copy 1 of 35.

8:00 A.M., 23 April, 1942.

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JCS memo. 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 7 1974

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. Enemy naval forces remaining in the BAY OF BENGAL-MALAYA area are believed to consist of destroyers and submarines only. Submarine operations are expected to continue from the Japanese base at PENANG.

Burma. Chinese and British forces cleared the enemy from the south bank of the PIN and thus enabled British forces further south to withdraw across the PIN. Chinese units were holding YENANGYAUNG. Meantime, however, the situation on the KARENNI Front deteriorated unexpectedly. A Japanese drive to the northeast from slightly northwest of LOIKAW succeeded in dispersing Chinese forces in that area and threatening the Allied left flank. On the SITTANG front, Chinese forces were engaged 12 miles north of PYINMANA, with some hostile elements in their rear.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. Enemy action against the harbor forts continues on a reduced scale. Yesterday's ineffective bombing of the DEL MONTE sector by two hostile seaplanes, coupled with increasing attention to this area, may presage a Japanese attack on MINDANAO.

Fighting continues heavy on PANAY and CEBU.

Melanesia. On the 20th Japanese bombers escorted by fighters unsuccessfully attacked PORT MORESBY. Three enemy fighters were damaged and possibly crashed and two others possibly damaged in combat with Allied fighters.

Allied planes raided RABAU 20 April, attacking a wharf and buildings and causing several fires. The Japanese Patrol Headquarters, 50 miles west of RABAU, was raided by Allied planes which demolished a large building and damaged others.

The anticipated concentration in the TRUK-NEW BRITAIN area is shaping up and those units which are believed under orders to proceed to this area should all be assembled by the end of April. However, it is thought quite likely that most, if not all, of the forces previously in the BAY OF BENGAL may wind up in this area after completion of overhaul in home yards. It is estimated that by 10 May the striking forces which were in the BAY OF BENGAL could be assembled in the TRUK-NEW BRITAIN area ready for a major operation. Offensive operations from NEW BRITAIN may, however, be launched prior to the above date.

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Japanese Navy. Search operations by hostile naval units in the Northwest PACIFIC, apparently having brought only negative results, are now to a great extent being discontinued. Air and surface units are believed to be resuming normal employment, but submarines continue to remain active.

Japan. The Swiss Minister in TOKYO reports that there were no casualties among U. S. Nationals during the recent air raids on JAPAN.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. The number of submarines in this theater, west of the longitude of the AZORES, is now estimated to be about 20 instead of 30 as given in Summary No. 132. Their presently established disposition is proportionately about the same as was given in that Summary, except that there has been no very recent evidence of the presence of enemy submarines off the north coast of BRAZIL. J.I.C. Comment: Estimates of the number and positions of enemy submarines are necessarily based on deductions drawn from fragmentary information as to their movements.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

No official report has yet been received regarding the commando raid near BOULOGNE reported in the press.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Nothing to report.

6. AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Dahomey. Aerial reconnaissance confirms the reported presence of what appears to be a group of 22 pursuit planes at the KOTONU airport. J.I.C. Comment: KOTONU is in Vichy-French territory between ACCRA and LAGOS (70 miles west of the latter place). It is considered that such a concentration of pursuit planes at that point would constitute a threat to the ferry route. The number reported exceeds previous estimates of Vichy aircraft in that region.

Cirenaica. No change in the situation.

Malta. Heavy air attack continues.

*A. Sidney Buford III*

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Captain, F.A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.



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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. Recent reports indicate that all Japanese heavy naval units, including aircraft carriers, have been withdrawn from the BAY OF BENGAL-MALAYA area.

J.I.C. Comment: It now appears that major naval operations in the BAY OF BENGAL are completed and future operations centering in some other theater, probably MELANESIA, will commence soon.

On the 18th, R.A.F. planes raided PORT BLAIR, ANDAMAN ISLANDS, destroying two enemy flying boats. One R.A.F. bomber failed to return.

Burma. The situation has improved. Chinese and British forces are concentrating in the area KYAUKPADAUNG-YENANGYAUNG-east of MAGWE. Elements of the British TAUNGDWINGYI troops have reached MAGWE, and are attacking the enemy's east flank. One-half of the Japanese 33d Division is known to be in the YENANGYAUNG area; the other half is thought to be moving in the direction of KYAUKPADAUNG. On the PYINMANA front the Chinese are holding the enemy 55th Division. In the KARENNI area, the enemy was reported to be 20 miles south of LOIKAW. J.I.C. Comment: Although there has been no definite report that new Chinese reinforcements have reached the IRRAWADDY front, there is strong evidence that such is the case.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. CORREGIDOR was free of enemy action, although our other harbor forts were subjected to a few hostile dive-bombing attacks.

Our forces in northern PANAY have been compelled to withdraw slightly. In the southwest part of the island our troops are in contact with the enemy units which landed there on the 19th (Summary No. 131).

The enemy has been carrying out air reconnaissance over the northwestern part of NEGROS ISLAND.

Melanesia. On the 20th, five Allied bombers attacked the SALAMAUA airdrome scoring direct hits on buildings and fuel dumps there. One hanger was completely wrecked.

Japanese planes carried out a wide reconnaissance over that area of NEW GUINEA east of PORT MORESBY.

The vessel on which Allied planes scored a direct hit off RABAU on 19 April (Summary No. 132) has been definitely identified as the KENJO MARU, a converted seaplane tender.

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The Japanese continue to strengthen their position in NEW BRITAIN. Additional heavy bombers are reported to have arrived at RABAUL on the 19th. Japanese ground forces have occupied WUNAMARITA (25 miles west of RABAUL) and extensive earth works have been constructed at KERABAT (15 miles southwest of RABAUL), and at KOPOPO (10 miles southeast of RABAUL).

Japanese Navy. Japanese naval units continue search operations for an Allied task force believed to be in Northwestern PACIFIC waters, but there is no indication of a contact.

Several heavy naval vessels which have been operating in the BAY OF BENGAL are believed to be approaching home waters. Apparently, they are returning for overhaul and upkeep prior to future employment. Some other units, including aircraft carriers and cruisers formerly in the BAY OF BENGAL-MALAYA area are believed to be enroute to the TRUK area.

Macao. The small Portuguese colony of MACAO, near CANTON, is reported to have been seized by the Japanese.

Japan. According to British sources, evidence of any complete joint plan between the German and Japanese General Staffs is still lacking. It is not yet possible to ascertain whether the Japanese intention is to move against Northeast INDIA or whether her present military situation necessitates a consolidation of her gains. The possibility of becoming involved with RUSSIA may influence her strategy. Meanwhile her successes in BURMA continue while she maintains forces in MELANESIA threatening the U.S.-AUSTRALIA supply line.

### 3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. There appears to have been no material change in the submarine situation.

Erratum. The statement yesterday (Summary No. 132) that five enemy submarines were estimated to be between the latitudes of northern NEWFOUNDLAND and NEW YORK and the longitudes of NEWFOUNDLAND and BERMUDA was partially in error. The longitudinal references should have been NEWFOUNDLAND and the AZORES.

Russian Convoy Route (Northern). Submarines, as well as light surface vessels and aircraft, are operating against shipping on this route. Twenty such vessels are believed now to be based in the northern part of NORWAY.

German Ships. The battleship TIRPITZ is believed still to have been in TRONDHEIM FIORD on 21 April. It was not ascertained whether on that date ADMIRAL SCHEER, HIPPER, and PRINZ EUGEN were also still there; no information has been received to indicate that any of them have left.

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4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. During the 24 hours ending at two P.M., 20 April, 240 bombers, escorted by fighters, attacked airdromes, barracks, and depots, inflicting considerable damage.

Cirenaica. Normal patrol activity has been resumed.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Recent operations in the vicinity of LENINGRAD are believed to be of a local character. At MOSCOW the weather is clearing, but the ground is muddy. A major offensive in the south in early May is anticipated, with a northern attack in the direction of VOLOGDA possible later when ground conditions permit. J.I.C. Comment: Other estimates set late May or early June as the earliest practicable date for an offensive in the south.

*A. Sidney Buford III*

A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
Captain, F.A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Subject Matter is Confidential Information to the extent of the text. It may be assumed that information reported in this document is of a highly confidential nature and should be treated as such.

INDONESIA

U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

Summary. On 21 April 1942, a Japanese transport ship was sighted in the Java Sea. A Chinese freighter was contacted and it was determined that she had not made contact with the enemy. Detailed reports made of the Japanese transport ship were received in that area. The Japanese transport ship was reported to have been sighted from the WINDWARD ARCH, to SIKATIL, Java. Contact between the ship and the WINDWARD ARCH was made on 21 April.

DAILY SUMMARY

THE EAST AND PACIFIC THEATRE

Philippines. The enemy has been reported to have captured the island of CANTON from our forces in that area. The capture of this island is of relatively light importance.

No reports have been received from the Philippines since 21 April.

No. 132 Copy 27 of 35.

Malaya. The Japanese transport ship was sighted in the Java Sea on 21 April. The ship was reported to have been sighted from the WINDWARD ARCH, to SIKATIL, Java.

8:00 A.M., 21 April, 1942.

Summary. The Japanese transport ship was sighted in the Java Sea on 21 April. The ship was reported to have been sighted from the WINDWARD ARCH, to SIKATIL, Java. The distance from SIKATIL to SIKATIL is only about 10 miles further than that from SIKATIL to SIKATIL.

Malaya. A Japanese transport ship was sighted in the Java Sea on 21 April. The ship was reported to have been sighted from the WINDWARD ARCH, to SIKATIL, Java. The distance from SIKATIL to SIKATIL is only about 10 miles further than that from SIKATIL to SIKATIL.

On the 21st of April, the Japanese transport ship was sighted in the Java Sea. The ship was reported to have been sighted from the WINDWARD ARCH, to SIKATIL, Java.

DECLASSIFIED  
JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Burma. On the 17th, the British cleared the Japanese road blocks north of the PIN RIVER (Summary No. 131) and dispersed the enemy forces in that area. A Chinese regiment was enroute south from KYAUKPADAUNG, but had not made contact with the enemy. British forces south of YENANGYAUNG continued their withdrawal to that place. The hostile threat to MEIKTILA has compelled the Chinese to move one division from the PYINMANA front to MEIKTILA. Other Chinese forces in this sector are slightly north and west of PYINMANA.

Reinforcements for the BURMA front continue to be sent by sea from SINGAPORE under naval escort.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. The enemy has been carrying out a heavy artillery assault on CORREGIDOR from new positions on BATAAN. Damage is comparatively light.

No reports have been received on the situation in PANAY and CEBU.

Netherlands East Indies. On the 18th and 19th, Allied planes reconnoitered KOEPANG, DUTCH TIMOR. Antiaircraft fire was encountered.

J.I.C. Comment: KOEPANG has been subjected to continuous Allied air attacks for the past month. There are indications this vulnerable naval air base may be moved to some new location, possibly AMBON. The distance from AMBON to DARWIN is only about 50 miles further than that from KOEPANG to DARWIN.

Melanesia. Allied aircraft attacked RABAU 18 April, scoring one direct hit and two near misses on two transports and probably damaging wharfs and buildings near the harbor. Four enemy fighters were destroyed and three flying boats damaged at the airdrome. Antiaircraft fire was encountered but no fighter opposition. On the 19th, RABAU was again attacked, and a direct hit and a near miss were obtained on a vessel in the harbor. The buildings at LAKUNAI airdrome (near RABAU) were bombed and some of them were set afire. Strong hostile air opposition was encountered. One enemy fighter was shot down and another damaged. All of our planes returned.

On the 18th enemy fighters enroute to PORT MORESEY were intercepted by our fighters. One of our fighters is missing. Other enemy air activity was confined to reconnaissance missions over CAPE NELSON (southeast of LAE) and SAMARIA (southeast tip of NEW GUINEA).

Wake. There are indications of an increase in the Japanese air strength at WAKE.

Japan. Japanese air, surface and submarine units are conducting extensive search operations in the northwestern PACIFIC for an Allied naval force thought to be in those waters.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. The estimated number and positions of enemy submarines in the ATLANTIC THEATER west of the longitude of the AZORES on 20 April were as follows: 6 close in along the North American coast between NOVA SCOTIA and CAPE LOOKOUT; 2 close in along the east coast of FLORIDA; 3 well off shore to southeastward of NOVA SCOTIA; 4 well off shore to northwestward of BERMUDA; 5 between latitudes of Northern NEWFOUNDLAND and NEW YORK and longitudes of NEWFOUNDLAND and BERMUDA; 4 to eastward and northeastward of BERMUDA; 4 (maximum) in CARIBBEAN; 2 (possibly) off north coast of BRAZIL; total 30. The submarines to the eastward of a line between CAPE RACE and BERMUDA appear to be on passage, about one-half eastbound and one-half westbound.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. J.I.C. Comment: Laval's passionate radio address indicates that the old line of collaborationist propaganda will be pursued with new vigor. BRITAIN enticed FRANCE into a war in which she had no legitimate interest; then abandoned her. Instead of fighting the Germans, the British have made war on FRANCE, first at ORAN and recently in air attacks on French territory. The victory of the United Nations, which is impossible, would result only in turning FRANCE over to the Soviets. The victory of GERMANY is therefore the only hope for peace and dignity. This specious reasoning was to be expected, but the bluntness with which it is advanced indicates the beginning of a campaign of propaganda characterized by vigor rather than subtlety. While the attitude of the administration is made clear, the necessity for such a campaign may imply that specific acts of aid to GERMANY must wait until French opinion has been won over to collaboration.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. The harbor and airdromes were attacked by 200 bombers, escorted by fighters, between noon, 18 April, and two P.M., 19 April.

Cirenaica. Sandstorms continue to hamper operations.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

The situation remains unchanged.

A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
Captain, F.A.  
Asst. Sect., J.I.C.

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE  
SUBJECT: [Faint text]

U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 131 Copy 1 of 35.

8:00 A.M., 20 April, 1942.

DECLASSIFIED  
JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 7 1974

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. R.A.F. reconnaissance in the CEYLON area disclosed no Japanese naval units in those waters.

Burma. On the night of 16/17 April the Japanese established a road block north and south of the PIN RIVER on the road leading from YENANGYAUNG to KYAUKPADAUNG (32 miles northeast of YENANGYAUNG). (The PIN RIVER flows west into the IRRAWADDY 4 miles north of YENANGYAUNG). British forces north of the PIN have attacked to clear the block, but results of this action are unknown. Demolition of the CHAUK oil fields has been ordered. (CHAUK is on the east bank of the IRRAWADDY 30 miles north of YENANGYAUNG).

Two Chinese regiments are now in the area KYAUKPADAUNG-MEIKTILA. (MEIKTILA is 45 miles east of KYAUKPADAUNG and 65 miles north of TAUNGDWINGYI). There is no further news from the PYINMANA front.

Small British forces are attempting to handle the looting and general disorder in the AKYAB area.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Far Eastern Waters. In the past few days movements of rather large numbers of Army transports have been reported. Some 16 such vessels appear to have started north from SINGAPORE with DAIREN their probable destination. Another group of about 24 are believed to have departed from PENANG for some unknown destination.

Philippines. The enemy has temporarily slackened his bombing and shelling of our harbor forts.

The Japanese advance in the northern part of PANAY has been held up by our forces. On the southwestern part of the island the enemy has made new landings.

Netherlands East Indies. Unconfirmed reports state that Japanese forces have occupied SIBERUT and PULO NIAS Islands off the west coast of SUMATRA.

Melanesia. The RABAU area continues to be strengthened, particularly with aircraft, but a few submarines are also believed to have arrived in these waters. Some shore-based air units from the BAY OF BENGAL appear to be moving eastward, probably to RABAU or adjacent locations.

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China. Chiang Kai Shek has decided to grant Chinese recognition to the Korean Provisional Government, whose headquarters are now located in CHUNGKING.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. Before daylight on 19 April a submarine fired five shells at oil tanks on the shore of BULLFIN BAY, CURACAO. No damage resulted. The shore batteries fired one round in reply.

Reports received during the period 1-17 April indicate that about the same number of submarine attacks have occurred recently in the general vicinity of CAPE HATTERAS as have occurred in all the rest of the ATLANTIC THEATER west of Longitude 30°W.

Apparently there has been no material change in the submarine situation in this theater.

Vichy French Ships. The light cruisers GEORGE LEYGUES and MONTCALM and the heavy destroyers FANTASQUE and MALIN, mentioned in Summaries Nos. 129 and 130, returned to DAKAR on 17 April.

Casablanca. Changes which have been made in the dispositions of some of the Vichy French naval vessels at CASABLANCA (which include the battleship JEAN BART, the light cruisers PRIMAGUET and GLOIRE, and three heavy destroyers) indicate that the port has been placed in readiness to meet an attack from seaward. No recent changes are reported in the major naval units present.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. In a brief broadcast Petain identified the Laval administration with himself and appealed for popular support.

British air operations. During the period 16-18 April the R.A.F. maintained its recent heavy scale of attack. AUGSBURG was bombed by daylight, 17 April, with good results. On the night of 17/18 April 113 tons of high explosive and 105 tons of incendiaries were dropped on HAMBURG. Anti-aircraft defense there was heavy. Daylight bombing attacks were made on various points in northern FRANCE, with notably good results at HAVRE on the 16th and at ROUEN on the 17th. Fighter sweeps on those days were the strongest of the war, numbering 628 and 650 planes respectively. German defensive patrols generally avoided combat.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. Heavy air attack was renewed on the morning of 18 April, when 110 Bombers, escorted by fighters, appeared. Italian bombers have begun to participate in these attacks.

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Cirenaica. Severe sandstorms have restricted operations.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Nothing to report.

*A. Sidney Buford III*

A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
Captain, F.A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

MEMO: Unless otherwise indicated, all information is classified as CONFIDENTIAL. This information is to be disseminated only to those personnel who have a valid military or naval activity directly related to the activity of the Committee.

U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 130 Copy 1 of 35.

8:00 A.M., 19 April, 1942.

DECLASSIFIED

JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Burma. There is no reported change in the situation.

On the 15th it was reported that 50 enemy planes were on the air-drome at CHIENGMAI and 50 at LAMPANG (southeast of CHIENGMAI).

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. During the last few days our troops in the northern part of LUZON have carried out several successful raids on enemy lines of communication. J.I.C. Comment: The foregoing report from General Wainwright is the first recent information indicating that our organized guerrilla bands in the BONTOC HILLS are still operating and are still in communication with CORREGIDOR.

Our forces on CEBU have completed demolition of military stores, supplies and ships.

DEL MONTE (MINDANAO) was bombed, without damage, by hostile sea planes.

Netherlands East Indies. On the 17th, Allied planes bombed KOEPANG, DUTCH TIMOR. Results were undetermined. The enemy failed to intercept the raiding planes.

Australia. General MacArthur is establishing a southwest Pacific Area and assumes supreme command as of 19 April. His orders and instructions will be considered by Australian Commanders as emanating from the commonwealth government.

Melanesia. On the 17th five Japanese bombers, escorted by seven fighters, raided 7 MILE airdrome at PORT MORESBY. Three hostile fighters were shot down and several damaged. Three of our planes were damaged. Enemy planes also raided CAPE NELSON (southeast of LAE) for the first time. Results are unknown. Japanese air reconnaissance covered a wide area in southern NEW GUINEA. Allied air activity 17 April was confined to reconnaissance missions over RABAUL and LAE. One of our pursuit ships was shot down over LAE.

Japan. The Japanese radio has reported that the planes which participated in raid over JAPAN were identified as U. S. bombers.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submerines. An Argentine merchant vessel was torpedoed by a submarine, presumably German, in the vicinity of BERMUDA. The master and

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crew apparently abandoned the ship after sending out an SOS. Allied vessels dispatched to the scene found the abandoned vessel and placed a crew aboard the ship, which is now enroute under its own power to a friendly port. The survivors remain unlocated.

Vichy French Ships. The naval units reported to have departed from DAKAR (Summary No. 129) are now in sight of DAKAR and no unusual movement is indicated.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. The composition of Laval's cabinet was announced officially, 18 April. Laval retains for himself the key ministries of Interior (i.e., police), Foreign Affairs, and Information. Darlan is excluded, but remains military commander-in-chief responsible directly to Petain. When defense matters are discussed in cabinet, he may attend.

J.I.C. Comment: The cabinet consists of comparatively unknown men, a majority of whom are active collaborationists. Laval is still unable to fill two positions (Air and Industrial Production). De Brinon and Benoist-Mechin are included as aides to Laval without portfolio. The former will continue as diplomatic representative in Paris. Laval's acceptance of Darlan as independent commander-in-chief is merely a temporary expedient. He now has the means to gain eventual control of the armed services as well as the civil administration.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. At 1:00 P.M. 17 April no bombs had been dropped for 54 hours.

Cirensica. On 16 April British mobile units made successful raids in the vicinities of BIR TIMROD, SIDI BREGHISC, and SEGNALI.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Murmansk. The harbor was bombed heavily, 15 April. One merchant vessel was sunk and another was badly damaged and beached.

*A. Sidney Buford III*

A. SIDNEY BUFORD, III  
Captain, F.A.  
Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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U. S. JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

India. Further indications are to the effect that the Japanese have withdrawn practically all of their heavy naval units from the BAY OF BENGAL and it is believed that a maximum of two aircraft carriers remain in that area. Light forces of destroyers and submarines are believed to have remained, along with shore-based aircraft.

J.I.C. Comment: It appears that the Japanese have abandoned plans for the advance on the east coast of INDIA and CEYLON which was clearly indicated by the initial attacks on these objectives in the early part of the month.

Since the Japanese attack on COLOMBO, numerous natives have fled from the city, causing a shortage of labor. As a result, the loading and unloading of ships is seriously handicapped.

Burma. During the night of 16/17 April, U.S. bombers carried out a raid on the RANGOON harbor area. Antiaircraft fire was heavy, and searchlights were so intense that the results of the bombing could not be definitely ascertained. No hostile planes were encountered, and we suffered no losses.

The general BURMA situation is reaching a critical stage, largely because of a lack of planes and armament and the exhaustion of the troops. British forces are holding the TAUNGWINGYI area, but, more to the west, the British troops earlier reported near MYINGUN have withdrawn to a line slightly north of MAGWE. To help protect their right flank from being thus exposed, the Chinese have sent elements of their forces along the PYINMANA-TAUNGWINGYI Road. J.I.C. Comment: Enemy infiltration by the 11th was threatening the YENANGYAUNG oil fields, and the demolition of those fields was ordered. The reported withdrawal to MAGWE would indicate that the demolitions had been completed.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. Heavy fighting is taking place on PANAY, where our forces are resisting the enemy invasion.

CORREGIDOR and FORT HUGHES were subjected to heavy shelling from new Japanese positions on BATAAN and CAVITE. Some 240-mm. guns were used. Our casualties were heavier than usual.

It is reported that Japan is planning the systematic exploitation of PHILIPPINE mineral ores, principally chromium, iron, manganese, and copper. Twenty large Japanese companies were to begin this work on 1 April.

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Tuamotu Archipelago. An enemy submarine was sighted in an area northwest of AMANU ISLAND, TUAMOTU (Lat. 17-45 S., Long. 140-40 W).

J.I.C. Comment: This is the first report of enemy submarine operations in this area.

Japan. Japanese radio broadcasts state that Allied planes attacked TOKYO, YOKOHAMA, NAGOYA (270 miles southwest of TOKYO) and KOBE. Nine Allied planes are alleged to have been shot down.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Vichy French Ships. The light cruisers GEORGE LEYGUES and MONTCALM and the heavy destroyers FANTASQUE and MALIN, which have been at DAKAR for some time past, put to sea on 15 April. Up to the morning of 17 April they had not returned to DAKAR, and they were not then in sight from the port. J.I.C. Comment: These vessels have frequently gone to sea for exercise, but during their periods of exercise they have usually remained in sight from DAKAR. While there appear to have been no circumstances connected with their departure to suggest that they were going to sea for any purpose other than exercise, the circumstances described now suggest the probability of some other purpose. Early in April the light cruiser GLOIRE, which had been at DAKAR for some time, proceeded to CASA BLANCA, where, according to the last report received, she has since remained. Some such movement of the other vessels named now appears probable.

No other recent movements of VICHY French naval units in European or African waters, other than usual types of movements of sloops, armed merchantmen and submarines, have been reported. The battleship RICHELIEU was still at DAKAR on 17 April.

Submarines. No material change in situation as last reported.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. J.I.C. Comment: Although Laval experienced some unexplained difficulty in forming his cabinet, the political situation appears to be developing as was anticipated. VICHY's emphasis upon the fact that Franco-American relations have not been broken is indicative of anxiety regarding the effect of Admiral Leahy's recall upon French opinion.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Nothing to report.

6. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. The situation remains critical. The increased scale and frequency of air attack has rendered the island unserviceable as a base. Although some goods were salvaged from the recent convoy, regular supply cannot be established. There is a scarcity of foodstuffs and sanitary conditions are critical. No combined air and sea attack appears to be impending, although the means are available in ITALY and SICILY.

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Cirenaica. The situation remains unchanged.

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Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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Washington

There have been no recent arrivals and departures of Japanese, British or Japanese ships in the BAY OF BENGAL. One German and two British vessels were at PORT BLAIR, and three British vessels were at PORT BLAIR. A British merchant vessel arrived at PORT BLAIR on 14 March, escorted by two military destroyers and a submarine.

DAILY SUMMARY

The Japanese offensive against the Bay of Bengal is continuing to be directed away from the Bay of Bengal. Although it was at first thought that the withdrawal of aircraft carriers was for the purpose of protecting east Sumatra, it now appears that these carriers have been ordered not to proceed to other areas. Japanese aircraft carriers are working out of the Bay but are unable to attack. On the afternoon of the 15th, one Japanese battleship (possibly a cruiser) was seen leaving Port Blair by a B.M.F. reconnaissance plane about 100 miles south of BIRLA. British sources believe that the Japanese have been ordered to remain in the Bay and not proceed to other areas. The Japanese have three heavy cruisers, three destroyers of the 1st class and three destroyers of the 2nd class.

No. 128 Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 17 April, 1942.

The composition of Allied aircraft and positions from the BIRLA area southwest remains in effect because of reports of enemy naval forces in the vicinity of BIRLA.

Some 25 of the 15th British forces still hold the BIRLA area, with other British units presumably established around the YIN RIVER. (The YIN River flows into the BIRLA about 100 miles east of BIRLA.) There is no information on the situation at BIRLA (on the east bank of the BIRLA, 5 miles south of its junction with the YIN). The brigade now under attack to assist the British forces must have been fighting there for two days.

The Chinese report that the Japanese have launched a new offensive against the Chinese front. There is no information on the situation at BIRLA. The Chinese report that the Japanese have launched a new offensive against the Chinese front. There is no information on the situation at BIRLA.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 7 1974

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JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Madagascar. There have been no recent arrivals and departures of German, Italian or Japanese ships in MADAGASCAN ports. One German and two Italian vessels are at DIEGO SUAREZ, but these arrived there in March 1941. A French merchant vessel arrived at TAMATOVE on 14 March, escorted by an auxiliary cruiser and a submarine.

Indian Ocean. The center of Japanese offensive naval activity now appears to be drawing away from the BAY OF BENGAL. Although it was at first thought that the withdrawal of aircraft carriers was for the purpose of replacing lost aircraft, it now appears that three carriers have been detached and are proceeding to other areas. Likewise the principal cruiser units are moving out of the BAY but may remain nearby. On the afternoon of the 15th, one Japanese battleship (possibly a cruiser) and one destroyer were sighted by a R.A.F. reconnaissance plane about 100 miles south of CEYLON. British sources estimate that the Japanese force remaining in Malayan waters does not exceed three battleships, two carriers, three heavy cruisers, three squadrons of destroyers and three squadrons of submarines.

In spite of the apparent withdrawals of some naval strength, merchant types in considerable numbers continue to move into the BAY OF BENGAL, probably as the result of increased security which the Japanese believe they now possess in this area.

The suspension of Allied merchant ship sailings from the CALCUTTA area southward remains in effect because of reports of enemy naval forces in the vicinity of CEYLON.

Burma. As of the 16th, British forces still held the TAUNGDWINGYI area, with other British units successfully established astride the YIN RIVER. (The YIN flows west into the IRRAWADDY about ten miles south of MAGWE.) There is no information on the situation at MYINGUN (on the east bank of the IRRAWADDY, 5 miles south of its junction with the YIN). One brigade has counter attacked to assist the British forces which have been fighting there for two days.

The Chinese report no change on the PYINMANA front.

There is no information as yet to support the belief that the Japanese have launched a new drive into the SHAN STATES (Summary No. 127).

J.I.C. Comment: Although little information has come from the Chinese front, there is reason to believe that the Chinese are making a slow withdrawal to the north.

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## 2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. Japanese forces landed at PANAY (southeast of MINDORO) on the morning of the 16th. Because there has been no communication with CEBU since the first days of the fighting there, the situation on the island is unknown.

TOKYO reports of the number of prisoners taken on BATAAN indicate that there is still a substantial number of determined troops on BATAAN, such as the Philippine scouts, who will continue to carry out guerrilla operations, possibly for some time.

Australia. On the 15th PORT DARWIN was reconnoitered by enemy planes. Unidentified planes appeared over the GERALDTON area (approximately 225 miles north of PERTH on the southwest coast of AUSTRALIA).

New Zealand. A U.S. merchant vessel was attacked by an enemy submarine in the vicinity of Lat. 45-30 S., Long. 174-10 W (near CHATHAM ISLAND approximately 500 miles east of WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND).

Melanesia. On the 15th two U.S. Army bombers attacked shipping at RABAUL, scoring a direct hit amidships on a merchant vessel. Wharfs and buildings near the harbor were probably damaged. Light antiaircraft was encountered.

Enemy air activity on the 15th was confined to reconnaissance missions over the northeast end of NEW GUINEA.

Siberia. A balloon barrage appears to be in the process of erection over VLADIVOSTOK. There is a noticeable feeling of tension among the inhabitants in the city and persons intending to leave must now obtain a travel permit.

## 3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. The greatest submarine activity in the western part of this theater continues to center in the waters off the U.S. coast in the general vicinity of CAPE HATTERAS. In the CARIBBEAN area a vessel is reported to have been torpedoed on 16 April 160 miles WNW of TRINIDAD. A north-bound bauxite vessel is also said to have been torpedoed during daylight on 14 April between ST. VINCENT and BARBADOES while in the prescribed shipping lane. Only about three submarines are believed to be in the CARIBBEAN area. There appears to have been no material change in the general situation in the ATLANTIC THEATER.

German Ships. TIRPITZ, SCHEER, HIPPER, and EUGEN believed still in TRONDHEIM FIORD on 16 April. No changes are reported on the disposition of other major German naval units.

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4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. Goering and his staff have been near FORGES-LES-EAUX (SEINE INFERIEURE) since 4 April, according to a very reliable source. Near CAEN a German troop train was blown up, 16 April.

British Air Operations. Heavy attacks were made on DORTMUND on the nights of 14/15 and 15/16 April. HAVRE was also bombed on the first night, and ST NAZAIRE on the second. Covered by strong fighter sweeps, British bombers attacked airdromes and communication facilities in northern FRANCE during daylight on the 14th and 15th, with particular attention to CAEN and CHERBOURG. (Press dispatches indicate that this daylight attack was continued on the 16th.)

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

In the south heavy rains have suspended operations. Sharp fighting in the RZHEV sector has resulted in no change in the front. Large movements of newly trained Soviet troops both eastward and westward continue.

6. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Cirenaica. Patrol activity continued, 14 April, with a sharp clash 15 miles west of GAZALA. The main Axis concentration of motor transport is now 7 miles north of SENGALI (30 miles SSW of TMIMI and 50 miles north-west of BIRHACHEIM).

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Joint Intelligence Committee

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DAILY SUMMARY

No. 127

Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 16 April, 1942.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74

By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that the information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

India. In the BAY OF BENGAL there has been a marked decrease of activity, but the lull may be interpreted as necessary in preparation for new Japanese advances. There are not sufficient transports in the vicinity for a Japanese attack on either CALCUTTA or CEYLON, although 40 merchant vessels are known to be at RANGOON. These, however, are believed to be employed in supporting operations in BURMA. There are also some transports with a capacity of one division at SINGAPORE and the ANDAMANS, but it is estimated that the Japanese would require five divisions at CALCUTTA and three divisions plus a tank division at CEYLON to conduct successful operations.

An official report of the raid by two R.A.F. planes on the Japanese base at PORT BLAIR, ANDAMAN ISLANDS, reveals that of the 13 hostile long range flying boats in the harbor, 1 was left sinking, 2 were set on fire, and the rest damaged.

J.I.C. Comment: The lack of airfields in the ANDAMANS has restricted the use of landplanes, thus accounting for the large force of seaplanes assembled there.

Burma. On the 13th, 27 enemy planes raided KENG TUNG (about 220 miles east and slightly south of MANDALAY). There is no reported change in the ground situation. J.I.C. Comment: The press states that the Japanese have launched a new drive into the SHAN STATES nearly 200 miles northeast of the present BURMA battle zones. The bombing at KENG TUNG is in line with this report, which is contrary to the conclusions reached by the British native officers who escaped from the Japanese (Summary No. 123).

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

China. Public utterances by prominent personages in the UNITED STATES suggest a widespread belief in the potentiality of CHINA as an active military factor in the defeat of JAPAN by the United Nations. While it is desirable to maintain the morale of the Free Chinese and assist them in continuing their inert resistance against the Japanese, there should be no illusions as to the practical aspects of their military strength. The lack of Chinese offensive spirit, plus political and physical difficulties, was evident prior to the fall of RANGOON and since that time has become progressively worse. The construction of routes to INDIA are only projected and may never be completed because of the rapidly deteriorating military situation in BURMA, which offers little hope even if a counter attack is launched. Chiang Kai Shek is displaying a keen interest in Central Asia, revealing his determination to resist, but such roads as exist or can be constructed in that area offer small practical hope for the delivery of effective supplies for successful military operations.

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Netherlands East Indies. R.A.A.F. planes attacked KOEPANG 13 April, damaging the runways on the airfield. Intense anti-aircraft fire was encountered and one plane failed to return.

Philippines. There is no substantial change in the general situation. On the 13th and 14th, 13 U.S. bombers carried out highly successful raids against enemy forces at CEBU, BATANGAS, NICHOLS FIELD, and DAVAO. One U.S. plane was lost but its crew is safe.

Far Eastern Waters. A U.S. submarine on patrol in the China Sea sank the following Japanese ships:

- 1 10,000-ton cargo passenger ship
- 1 5,000-ton freighter .

Japanese Navy. Some Japanese submarines are apparently equipped with 6-inch guns. An unexploded projectile removed from a British ship which was recently shelled by a Japanese submarine in the INDIAN OCEAN was of that caliber.

### 3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. No material changes in the situation. The only activity reported in the western part of the ATLANTIC THEATER occurred off the ATLANTIC COAST of North America.

German Ships. It is considered probable that the battleship GNEISENAU, which left KIEL between 29 March and 12 April and has not since been definitely located (Summary No. 125), is in the eastern BALTIC. The old battleship SCHLESSEN and the light cruiser LEIPZIG are thought also to be in that area. The German naval vessels TIRPITZ, SCHEER, HIPPER, and EUGEN, reported in Summary No. 125 to be in TRONDHEIM FIORD, are believed still to have been in the fiord on 15 April.

### 4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. According to a reliable source, the Germans are reinforcing in NORMANDY and have increased the depth of their dispositions in coastal regions. At least one division recently moved into the MANCHE and CALVADOS departments. An armored division has been seen moving from TOURS toward LE MANS. Reinforcements have arrived in the ST. NAZAIRE region also. A source believed to be reliable states that two German divisions have arrived recently in the MONS-GIVET-SOISSONS triangle.

There have been no reports of German reinforcement in the BORDEAUX-SPANISH FRONTIER area.

Laval has gone to PARIS, but will return to VICHY on Thursday.

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5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

No change.

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Captain, F. A.

Asst. Secy., J.I.C.

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THE JOINT BOARD

Joint Intelligence Committee

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DAILY SUMMARY

No. 126

Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 15 April, 1942.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74

By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. On 6 April the Indian sloop INDUS was bombed and sunk off the BURMA coast. The total number of Allied merchant vessels sunk by the Japanese in Indian waters since 3 April is at least 16.

There are further indications that the Japanese aircraft carriers which have been operating in the BAY OF BENGAL have retired to the eastward, probably to take on additional planes as their losses during recent operations have been heavy. Despite many confusing and contradictory reports, it is not believed that to date more than 3 battleships, 4 aircraft carriers, 5 heavy cruisers, 1 light cruiser, 1 destroyer squadron, and 12 submarines have operated in the BAY OF BENGAL on offensive missions.

Press sources state that the R.A.F. attacked a Japanese base in the ANDAMAN ISLANDS and destroyed 13 enemy flying boats.

Burma. Heavy and continual fighting occurred 12/13 April on the IRRAWADDY front. Early on the 13th a strong enemy column captured MIGYAUNGYE (on the east bank of the river 20 miles southeast of MAGWE). Despite some hostile infiltration northward, TAUNGWINGYI is still firmly held by the British.

The Chinese have withdrawn from SWA, and Japanese force is reported proceeding north by way of YADO, which is 30 miles east of the new Chinese position.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. It is reported that there is heavy fighting on CEBU. J.I.C. Comment: From the foregoing it appears that communications with CEBU have been reestablished.

Hostile artillery fire from BATAAN and CAVITE continued against our harbor forts, but enemy air activity decreased slightly.

Netherlands East Indies. On the 1st, a British submarine sank two Japanese ships in the STRAITS OF MALACCA. The ships (probably empty troop transports) were of 6000 and 7000 tons each.

Allied planes attacked KOEPANG, DUTCH TIMOR, 12 April, scoring a near miss on a small merchant ship. A larger vessel of 7000 tons, damaged by fire, was observed in the harbor.

Molnesia. U.S. bombers, escorted by fighters, raided LAE with undetermined results.

Japanese aerial activity was confined to minor reconnaissance.

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Australia. Australian authorities estimate that Japanese shipping losses are such that they are now able to support only one aggressive move at a time, and with further extension of their theater of operations, along with further shipping losses, they will soon be able only to hold and defend their occupied territories.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. There has apparently been no material change in the numbers or dispositions of the enemy submarines operating on the western part of the ATLANTIC THEATER. One is believed to be off the north coast of BRAZIL and one or two in the eastern CARIBBEAN. The rest are further north. Only one submarine appears at present to be operating off the west coast of AFRICA in the CAPE PALMAS area. The number of submarines operating north of NORWAY on the convoy routes to RUSSIA appears to have been increased. Two vessels on a westbound Russian convoy were torpedoed on 13 April to the northward of NORTH CAPE.

A submarine is believed to have been successfully attacked by gunfire from a destroyer northeast of CAPE HATTERAS before daylight on 14 April. Later the same day another submarine was attacked by depth charges from a trawler southeast of CAPE LOOKOUT; the indications are that it was at least damaged. These attacks occurred in the area in which enemy submarines have lately been most active. A merchant vessel claims that still later in the same day it made a direct hit by gunfire on an enemy submarine off the east coast of FLORIDA.

Shipping. Out of 4192 ships convoyed during March only 6 were lost by enemy action. During the week ending 8 April 1036 ships were convoyed.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. Ambassador Leahy confirms the appointment of Pierre Laval as Vice President of the Council with the portfolios of National Economy, Foreign Affairs, Interior, and Propaganda and Information. Other political changes may be expected, but the military situation remains unchanged. J.I.C. Comment: Laval has gained control of the civil administration, but he did not secure the dismissal of his personal enemy, Darlan, who retains control of the Army and Navy, for the time being. It is probable, however, that Laval, through his control of the police, can, in time undermine Darlan's position and gain control of the armed forces. Our Ambassador reports that the Germans regarded the issue of Laval's appointment as a test of strength between GERMANY and the UNITED STATES. It would now appear that GERMANY has won that assurance of French collaboration which was said to be prerequisite to the launching of the spring campaign. Similar preliminary arrangements in YUGOSLAVIA last spring backfired, however.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Cirenaica. Only patrol activity reported, 12 April.

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6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Nothing to report.

*Sidney Buford III*

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Summary of Losses in 1942

	Number of	Total in
	Losses	Value, \$
Total war losses	1,000	10,000,000
Losses completed		
in United States	100	1,000,000
in United Kingdom	100	1,000,000
Total war losses completed	200	2,000,000
Not war losses	800	8,000,000

The increase over the figure of \$15,000 given in the Supplement to J.I.C. Summary No. 29, resulted from information since received.

The total sinkings for February 1942, as shown above, was higher than for any other month, including 1941-1942, and was highest when total sinkings of 60,000 gross tons occurred.

Losses completed and sinkings of war vessels in the United States during 1942, reached new highs. Losses completed amounted to \$15,000,000 gross tons. The previous high for completions had been \$12,000,000 gross tons and 100,000 gross tons respectively.

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ANNEX

J.I.C. SUMMARY No. 126

THE BATTLE OF THE SEA LANES

The attached chart entitled "The Battle of the Sea Lanes" brings the figures for the merchant vessel sinkings, completions, and net war loss up to 31 March, 1942 (the similar chart attached to J.I.C. Summary No. 99 brought that information up to 28 February, 1942). The figures now available (later information will probably cause some revision of the total losses during March) are as follows to March 31, 1942, and for the months of February and March, 1942.

	<u>Gross Tonnage in 1000's of Tons</u>		
	<u>Month of</u>	<u>Month of</u>	<u>Total to</u>
	<u>Feb. '42</u>	<u>Mar. '42</u>	<u>31 Mar. '42</u>
Total war losses	<u>673*</u>	<u>560</u>	<u>10,497</u>
New vessels completed			
in United States	186	194	1,846
in United Kingdom	64	113	2,336
Total new vessels completed	<u>250</u>	<u>307</u>	<u>4,182</u>
Net war loss	<u>423</u>	<u>253</u>	<u>6,315</u>

\* The increase over the figure of 635,456 given in the Supplement to J.I.C. Summary No. 99, resulted from information since received.

The total sinkings for February 1942, as shown above, are higher than for any other month, including April 1941, the next highest month, when total sinkings of 647,000 gross tons occurred.

Both completions and launchings of new vessels in the United States during March, 1942, reached new highs. Launchings amounted to 275,000 gross tons. The previous highs for launchings and completions had been 235,000 gross tons and 186,000 gross tons respectively.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date

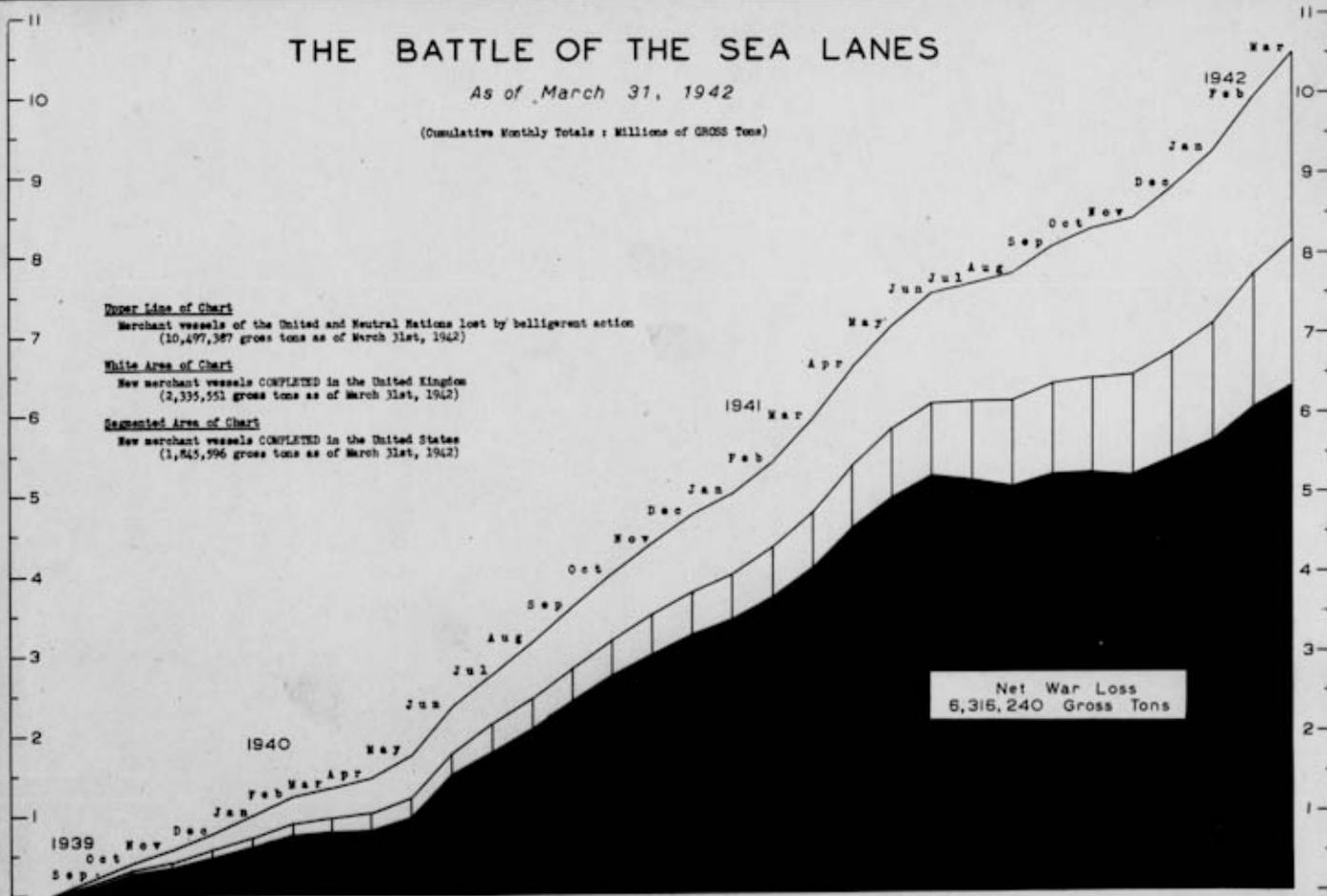
MAR 7 1974

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# THE BATTLE OF THE SEA LANES

As of March 31, 1942

(Cumulative Monthly Totals : Millions of GROSS TONS)



Based on data received by the Division of Naval Intelligence to date of issue. For explanation and sources see accompanying report

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Regraded Unclassified

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THE JOINT BOARD  
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Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 125

Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 14 April, 1942.

DECLASSIFIED  
JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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Joint Intelligence Committee  
Washington

NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

India. There are no new developments in the BAY OF BENGAL. It is reported that some of the large naval units recently operating there have returned to SINGAPORE. Attacks on Allied merchant vessels appear to have fallen off, probably as the result of British suspension of merchant traffic. Some Japanese merchant vessels have moved to the ANDAMANS, although there is no indication of the assembly there of a large convoy which might be employed in landing operations.

Burma. Two enemy columns moving north and northeast on MAGWE were contacted by British forces on 12 April. No contact had then been made with a third hostile column at SIMBAUNGWE (on the east bank of the IRRAWADDY about 30 miles southeast of MAGWE).

According to the Chinese, the enemy has renewed his assaults on Chinese troops in the vicinity of SWA.  
Hostile air raids continue.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Netherlands East Indies. Allied planes bombed the barracks and airfield at KOEPANG on the 12th. Heavy antiaircraft fire was encountered.

Melanesia. Three U.S. bombers attacked a Japanese aircraft carrier (probably the HOSHU) in the harbor at RABOUL, scoring a direct hit and two near misses close to the stern of the vessel. A second attack was carried out by three bombers but no damage was done to the ship. Heavy antiaircraft fire and some air opposition were encountered during both attacks. A carrier escorted by a destroyer was later sighted in this general area proceeding northwest at high speed.

It is believed that the Japanese will commence their sea borne offensive attack against PORT MORESBY sometime after 20 April.

Exploitation of western DUTCH GUINEA continues with indications that various bases are being planned.

A submarine base is under construction on the WARANGOI RIVER in NEW BRITAIN.

Philippines. As of the morning of 13 April, there had been no communications between FORT MILLS and CEBU for forty-eight hours.

The enemy has been keeping our harbor defenses under continuous artillery bombardment, and there has been no slackening of his air raids against CORREGIDOR.

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Japanese Navy. There are indications that Japanese submarine units which have been inactive during the past month will resume operations shortly. Three enemy submarines are reported to the northeast of JAPAN and one probably between WAKE and JALUIT.

Japanese vessels are now assigned definite routes in moving between JAPAN and the MANDATES, and extending into the NEW BRITAIN area. In the vicinity of the BONIN ISLANDS escorts are provided as required.

U.S. West Coast. A Canadian patrol plane sighted a small fishing boat with a pole mast in the vicinity of Lat. 54-30 N., Long. 132 W. When the plane approached, the vessel disappeared, and further search was conducted without results. The pilot is satisfied that the vessel was a submarine.

J.I.C. Comment: Previous reports have been to the effect that Japanese submarines have been disguised as fishing boats.

### 3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. One or more submarines operating off the north coast of BRAZIL in the general vicinity of PARNAHYBA are reported to have sunk or damaged at least four vessels during the past week. No further submarine attacks have been reported in the CARIBBEAN area. North of that area, submarine activity in the western part of the ATLANTIC THEATER appears to be continuing without material change.

German Ships. The battleship TIRPITZ, the pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHPER, and the heavy cruisers PRINZ EUGEN and HIPPER are believed to have been in their usual berths in TRONDHEIM FIORD on 13 April. The battleship GNEISENAU, last located at KIEL on 29 March (Summary No. 124), remains unlocated. No information has, however, been received to indicate that she is at sea.

### 4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. Darlan and Laval had a two-hour meeting, 11 April. A press dispatch from VICHY, 13 April, quotes an unofficial report that Laval has been named vice-premier in charge of foreign and interior affairs. J.I.C. Comment: Although German pressure on VICHY to obtain the appointment of Laval was reported during the latter part of March (Summaries No. 100 and 109), it was subsequently reported (Summary No. 114) that there was no immediate prospect of such a change. Rumors have persisted, however, that GERMANY would take necessary measures to insure the full collaboration of FRANCE before launching a spring campaign.

British air operations. Strong fighter opposition was encountered during a successful British attack on the railway center at HAZE BROOK, 12 April. On 12/13 April 327 aircraft were sent out, 251 to ESSEN and smaller groups to HAVRE, PARIS, and GENOA.

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5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. Air attacks continued on a reduced scale, 11 and 12 April. The HAL FAR and TAK/LI airdromes have been rendered temporarily un-serviceable.

Cirenaica. The enemy is holding positions occupied at SIDI BREGHISC and ROTUNDA SEGNALI, but has withdrawn from his most advanced positions on his northern and southern flanks.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

No change in the situation.

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61

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It is estimated that the Japanese military forces which recently engaged in operations at ENIWA, ISHIGAKI, etc., were only for part of their forces.

DAILY SUMMARY

There is no significant change in the present situation.

THE EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

1. Eniwatok. Allied planes attacked Eniwatok in the morning of 12 April and destroyed enemy airfields. The airbase on Eniwatok at both Eniwatok and Eniwatok Island on the ground were destroyed by aircraft. The ships were destroyed in the harbor at Eniwatok, including an aircraft carrier and the Eniwatok.

No. 124 Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 13 April, 1942.

They are further indications that a possible landing attack against ENIWA ISLAND may be expected shortly (approximately 13 April). ENIWA ISLAND (ENIWA ISLAND) was bombed by our planes in an effort to destroy the airbase and airfields at Eniwatok.

Philippines. On the 12th, information was received as to activity along the coast, particularly largely against the island of Luzon. All communications between ENIWA ISLAND and ENIWA ISLAND have been interrupted and there is no further word on the ENIWA situation.

ATLANTIC THEATER

Atlantic Ocean Route.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 7 1974

ENIWA ISLAND. The battleship ENIWA, which is believed to have been at ENIWA on 12 March, appears to have left there prior to 12 April. Her present whereabouts are not known. The battleship ENIWA and the light cruiser ENIWA are believed to have been at ENIWA on 12 April.

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. The Japanese air force in the ANDAMAN ISLANDS is being reinforced by additional planes.

It is estimated that the Japanese aircraft carriers which recently engaged in operations at CEYLON (COLOMBO, TRINCOMALEE, etc.) lost sixty per cent of their planes.

Burma. The A.V.G. shot down 11 enemy planes during the Japanese raid on LOIWIN<sup>3</sup> 8 April (Summary No. 122).

There is no significant change in the ground situation.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Melanesia. Allied planes attacked shipping in the harbor at RABAUL and raided two nearby airfields. Hits were scored on buildings at both airfields, and numerous planes on the ground were destroyed or damaged. Ten ships were observed in the harbor at RABAUL, including an aircraft carrier and three transports.

On the 10th LAE was attacked by Allied planes.

Seven enemy bombers and two fighters were damaged. Two of our planes failed to return. Enemy strength at LAE is estimated at 1800 men.

Enemy air activity was confined to air patrols over southeast NEW GUINEA.

There are further indications that a hostile landing attack against PORT MORESBY may be expected shortly (Summary No. 121).

FAISI (SOLOMON ISLANDS) was bombed by our planes in an effort to destroy the wharves and storehouses at that place.

Philippines. On the 12th, CORREGIDOR was subjected to 12 separate enemy air raids, concentrated largely against the island's center. All communications between FORT MILLS and CEBU ISLAND have been breached and there is no further word on the CEBU situation.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Russian Convoy Route. On 11 April a heavy air attack on a west-bound convoy from RUSSIA occurred, about 120 miles to the northward of MURMANSK.

German Ships. The battleship GNEISENAU, which is believed to have been at KIEL on 29 March, appears to have left there prior to 12 April. Her present whereabouts are not known. The battleship SCHARNHORST and the Light Cruiser NURNBERG are reliably reported to have been at KIEL on 12 April.

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Submarines. A merchant vessel is reported to have been torpedoed and sunk in the CARIBBEAN about 280 miles southeast of JAMAICA. J.I.C. Comment: This is the first submarine attack which has occurred for some time in the CARIBBEAN. No material change appears to have occurred in the number or disposition of the enemy submarines operating in the ATLANTIC THEATER.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. Heavy air attack has been resumed after a one-day lull. About 200 planes attacked the harbor and airdromes between 4:00 P.M., 10 April, and 1:30 P.M., 11 April.

Cirenaica. The Axis is digging in on a line running generally southwest for 30 miles from a coastal point about 5 miles west of GAZALA. The forward movement to this position was possibly for the purpose of providing deeper protection for the MARTUBA airdromes; to establish a more effective screen against British reconnaissance; and to cover further advances of main forces preparatory to attack. J.I.C. Comment: In March British ground patrols attacked successfully Axis airfields at TMIMI and MARTUBA, and, until the recent Axis advance, British ground reconnaissance operated freely in the vicinity of the Axis main line at MEKILI.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

No change.

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DAILY SUMMARY

No. 123

Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 12 April, 1942.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 7 1974

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. Latest reports indicate that the attack on TRINCOMALEE (Summary No. 122) was carried out by 54 bombers escorted by 40 fighters. Enemy casualties in this raid and in a subsequent attack on Japanese naval forces were 18 aircraft destroyed, 12 probably destroyed, 2 damaged. The British lost 11 planes.

It is now known that the Japanese raid on 6 April resulted in the sinking of seven, possibly eight, merchant ships. An American ship (S.S. EXHIBITOR) returned to CALCUTTA after being attacked while still in the mouth of the HOOGLY RIVER. A hostile attack on the 9th was responsible for the loss of two more ships, and the beaching of one additional ship.

J.I.C. Comment: The foregoing gives a clearer picture of the TRINCOMALEE action than has been heretofore obtainable.

India. British authorities planned to suspend shipping at CALCUTTA as of 10 April.

Burma. No reported change in the situation.

British native officers, who escaped after being captured by the Japanese, state that the enemy plans to take MANDALAY prior to the rainy season by a main drive up the road from TOUNGOO with a secondary effort north through the valley of the IRRAWADDY. The SHAN States are not to be attacked at present.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Netherlands East Indies. Two Allied planes attacked KOEPANG on 9 April. Large fires resulted.

Molnesia. The Japanese continue reconnaissance flights over the coastal area north and northeast of PORT MORESBY. PORT MORESBY itself was raided on the 10th by seven enemy bombers and six fighters. Only minor damage resulted. One bomber and one fighter were probably shot down.

It is reported that the Japanese land force advancing from LAE has not penetrated more than two miles up the MARKHAM valley.

TULAGI and GAVUTU (in the SOLOMON Islands) were attacked on the 8th by five Japanese flying boats, damaging buildings.

Four U.S. planes attacked shipping at RABAUL and aircraft at nearby VUNAKANAU aerodrome. One near miss was scored on an enemy ship, and not less than eight hostile bombers and one fighter were destroyed and others damaged.

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Philippines. An estimated 12,000 troops with a few planes and tanks comprised the enemy force which landed on CEBU. Hostile penetration inland has been slight. There is no reported change elsewhere.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Iceland. The cable between ICELAND and the UNITED KINGDOM has been broken or cut between the FAROE and SHETLAND ISLANDS. This is the only cable to ICELAND. It has a landing on the FAROE ISLANDS. It is presumed that the section between ICELAND and those islands can still be operated. Repairs during the war are believed not to be feasible.

Azores. The blackout and curfew on the island of SAN MIGUEL reported in Summary No. 116 have been terminated. J.I.C. Comment: No reports have been received to indicate that this blackout and curfew had any important significance.

Submarines. In the western part of the ATLANTIC THEATER, two merchant vessels, one a tanker, were reported to have been torpedoed on 11 April in the vicinity of CAPE LOOKOUT, N.C. Another tanker was reported to be afire nearby, and a vessel was reported to have had two gun shots fired at it by a submarine in that vicinity but without damage. Other vessels said to have been torpedoed on the same date were a tanker near ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, and a merchant vessel about 480 miles northeast of ST. THOMAS, V.I. No submarine attacks in the CARIBBEAN were reported.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Libya. On the 9th there was a slight increase in enemy activity against the southern British flank.

Malta. Air attacks on MALTA continued on 10 April, but up to 1:00 p.m. apparently with reduced intensity.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

There is no change in the situation.

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MEMO: Subject: [Faint text] for the [Faint text] in [Faint text]  
It may be [Faint text] [Faint text] [Faint text] [Faint text]

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DAILY SUMMARY

[Faint text describing the summary of events]

DAILY SUMMARY

[Faint text describing the summary of events]

No. 122 Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 11 April, 1942.

[Faint text describing the summary of events]

THE EAST AND PACIFIC THEATERS

[Faint text describing the summary of events]

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By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 7 1974

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. During the night of 3 April H.M.S. HERMES, one destroyer, one corvette, and eight fleet auxiliaries departed from TRINCOMALEE to evade an expected air attack, but were sighted by enemy aircraft. On the morning of the 9th the HERMES was attacked and sunk off the east coast of CEYLON by enemy dive bombers. The destroyer, corvette, and tanker were also sunk, but six of the auxiliaries returned to TRINCOMALEE. Japanese forces also sank four merchant ships in the general vicinity of CEYLON.

A more complete report of the attack on TRINCOMALEE has been received. It differs slightly from previous reports. (Summary No. 121). The enemy air force, which consisted of 27 bombers escorted by 40 fighters, is believed to have come from a naval task force of three battleships, four aircraft carriers, four or five cruisers, and two destroyers which had previously been sighted by British aircraft 180 miles east of TRINCOMALEE. Extensive damage was inflicted by the attacking planes on the shops, storehouses, water mains and power lines at TRINCOMALEE. In addition one ship was damaged and another beached on fire. Enemy losses were 21 planes certain, 12 probable, 2 damaged, plus 12 uncertain by antiaircraft fire. British losses were seven fighters and five bombers, with four bombers damaged.

Burma. As of the afternoon of the 9th, the British forces were in an area extending roughly east and west through MINHLA (just south of MAGWE). The Chinese reported surrounded at YEDASHE have rejoined Chinese units at SWA (north of KEDASHE).

On the 8th, 27 enemy bombers attacked MAYMYO (northeast of MANDALAY), and then raided MANDALAY half an hour later. Hostile navy fighters machine-gunned LOIWING the same day.

The press reports that AVG fliers are active again over northern BURMA

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Netherlands East Indies. After the fall of Bandoeng, Dutch troops remained in action in the mountain districts of JAVA, central TIMOR, central and north SUMATRA, central CELEBES and central BORNEO. The fate of these troops is at present unknown.

Philippines. Communication between FORT MILLS and BATAAN being severed, no information concerning results of negotiation can be obtained. General Wainwright confirms mass landings of Japanese on the Island of CEBU. The Japanese occupation of CEBU will affect seriously the defense of FORT MILLS, as it prevents transport of supplies thereto.

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Far Eastern Waters. U.S. submarines operating in Far Eastern waters have sunk the following ships in addition to those previously reported:

1 destroyer (SIGURE class);  
1 transport;  
1 merchant ship (7000 tons);  
1 subchaser.

In addition to the above, one freighter (4000 tons) is reported possibly sunk.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. The most recent enemy submarine activity in the ATLANTIC Theater has been concentrated largely off the North American coast in the area between CHARLESTON and the VIRGINIA CAPE. This is the area in which by far the greatest density of attacks has occurred during the past six weeks. No resumption of submarine activity in the CARIBBEAN is reported, but in addition to two submarines thought to be in that area two submarines appear to be heading towards it. A submarine has recently been operating off the coast of BRAZIL in the latitude of the mouths of the AMAZON RIVER.

Russian Convoy Routes. From 150 to 175 German aircraft of long-range bomber types suitable for operations against shipping are believed to be stationed at points along the Scandinavian Coast from TRONDHEIM to PETSAMO.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Libya. The situation is unchanged.

Malta. Air attacks on MALTA have continued, with some damage to vessels and shore facilities. Air attacks against this objective have exceeded in intensity anything which has heretofore occurred. The Merch average of about 100 attacks per 24 hours has now increased to about 200.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

No change in the ground situation. German air activity is reported increasing over LENINGRAD and MOSCOW, especially over the former.

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NOTE: Unless there is a specific reference to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that the information is of a confidential military or naval source and is to be kept confidential.

1. INDIAN OCEAN

Indian Ocean. The air attack on TRIPUNDRAPUR was carried out by 24 Japanese bombers escorted by 40 fighters and was directed against the harbor and airfield facilities there.

Some damage was inflicted, although only one merchant ship was harmed. Casualties were light. The Japanese are reported to have sent three battalions and four aircraft carriers. This force is said to have been attacked by British bombers in the line of strong enemy fighter protection. Three warships and Japanese carriers retreated. The Japanese plane losses are uncertain but probably exceeded six lost and two damaged. The British suffered four planes lost and four damaged.

DAILY SUMMARY

The large number of Japanese merchant vessels which are reported to be moving into the Bay of Bengal combined with considerable naval strength in these waters strengthens the possibility that landing operations will be carried out in the near future.

The alleged loss of Subhas Bose, former nationalist leader expelled from INDIA, has brought about a new expression of sorrow by many high level political leaders. Reports state that his death was a "great shock to all congressmen." Such expressions and reports have served to cast doubt on the reliability of intelligence provisions of messages up to 8:00 A.M., 10 April, 1942. It is reported that he was living in COCHIN or STAL since his departure from INDIA.

No. 121

Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 10 April, 1942.

Burma. The reported advance on the IRRAWADDY front.

In the TONKIN Area, Japanese forces are said to be 20 miles west of HANGHAI (100 miles east of TONKIN). Contact. This is undoubtedly the same advance reported in Summary No. 119.

The Chinese state that the enemy has surrounded a large force of their troops in YNDASHI (north of TONKIN).

There are some indications that the Japanese may begin another coordinated drive, which would be directed up the road from MONGHAI to LOYING (100 miles southeast of HANGHAI) and would perhaps be coordinated with their 16th Division on their right.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Netherlands East Indies. The Japanese are reported to have captured and Allied forces in the Netherlands East Indies.

A further investigation regarding the destruction of the PLIGAN refinery (Belgian), near MALINDANG, SUMATRA, by bombing indicates considerable damage but not complete destruction.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

Indian Ocean. The air attack on TRINCOMALEE was carried out by 54 Japanese bombers escorted by 40 fighters and was directed against the harbor and airfield facilities there.

Some damage was inflicted, although only one merchant ship was harmed. Casualties were light. The attacking planes are reported to have come from a Japanese naval force which included three battleships and four aircraft carriers. This force is said to have been attacked by British bombers in the face of strong enemy fighter protection. Three near misses on Japanese carriers resulted. The Japanese plane losses are uncertain but probably amounted to six lost and two damaged. The British suffered four planes lost and four damaged.

The large number of Japanese merchant vessels which are reported to be moving into the Bay of Bengal combined with considerable naval strength in these waters strengthens the possibility that landing operations will be carried out in the near future.

The alleged death of Subhas Bose, Indian Nationalist leader expelled from INDIA some time ago, has brought about profound expressions of sorrow by many high Indian political leaders. Local press reports state that his death was a "great shock to all congressmen." Such expressions and reports have served to cast doubt on the sincerity of the anti-Japanese professions of Congress as BOSE was an agent of the Axis, having lived in GERMANY or ITALY since his departure from INDIA.

Burma. No reported change on the IRRAWADDY front.

In the TOUNGOO Area, Japanese forces are said to be 28 miles west of MAWCHI (100 miles east of TOUNGOO). J.I.C. Comment: This is undoubtedly the same column reported in Summary No. 119.

The Chinese state that the enemy has surrounded a small force of their troops in YEDASHE (north of TOUNGOO).

There are some indications that the Japanese may begin another northerly drive, which would be directed up the road from MAWCHI to LOILEM (120 miles southeast of MANDALAY) and would perhaps be coordinated with their 18th Division on their right.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Netherlands East Indies. There is no communication between Australia and Allied forces in the Netherlands East Indies.

A further investigation regarding the destruction of the PLADJOE refinery (British), near PALEMBANG, SUMATRA, by bombing indicates considerable damage but not complete destruction.

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Melanesia. There is strong evidence of Japanese plans for a sea borne attack on PORT MORESBY.

U.S. bombers attacked the airfields at SALAMAU and LAE on 7 April, destroying six enemy fighters and setting fire to several buildings at the airfields.

The Japanese have occupied LORUNGAU, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS (325 miles northwest of RABAU).

J.I.C. Comment: This indicates an extensive consolidation of the NEW GUINEA-BISMARCK ARCHIPELAGO Area.

Japanese Mandates. A number of small vessels, probably motor torpedo boats, are being sent south to bolster the defenses of the MANDATED ISLANDS.

China. The Japanese raids on airfields in Free China have stopped since 3 April. Damage to fields is negligible so far.

Philippines. Hostilities on BATAAN have ceased. The results of the negotiations between the Commander of the Luzon forces and the Japanese Commander are unknown.

On the morning of 10 April, four transports, supported by three warships, were landing hostile troops at ARGAO (southeast coast of CEBU ISLAND). These troops were then moving north along the road to CEBU CITY. Three other warships were reported off TOLEDO (west coast of CEBU ISLAND). All landings have air support.

### 3. LATIN AMERICA

Mexico. There are some indications of growing discord between President COMACHO and ex-President Cardenas as a result of the latter's agitation among his supporters against Comacho's policies on domestic issues.

### 4. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. Submarine activity in the CARIBBEAN apparently has not been resumed. One or two submarines may, however, be in the area between MONA and ARUBA. No material change appears to have occurred in the submarine activity in other parts of the ATLANTIC THEATER.

Vichy French Merchant Vessel. The coal-burning Vichy French S.S. VILLE DE VERDUN is reported to be on her way from SAIGON to CASABLANCA via CAPE HORN with a cargo consisting mostly of rubber. She is expected to coal at a SOUTH AMERICAN port about the middle of May, since it is not believed possible for her to make a voyage of that length without coaling en route.

### 5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Libya. Latest indications are that ROMMEL's forces are digging in at BIRTEMROD and SIDI BREGHISC which would confirm the Axis recent advance as a reconnaissance in force.

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Malta. On the 8th MALTA had been, up to 1:00 P.M., attacked by a total of 183 enemy aircraft. Fighters and antiaircraft guns destroyed 12 of the attacking planes, 5 others were probably destroyed, and 10 were damaged. Some damage was caused to port facilities and airdromes.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

No reported change.

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DAILY SUMMARY

No. 120

Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 9 April, 1942.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

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JCS memo, 1-4-74

By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

India. On 4 April H.M.S. DORSETSHIRE and CORNWALL (both cruisers) were attacked and sunk by about 50 enemy fighter and bomber planes. The action occurred in the vicinity of COLOMBO.

Two more British merchant ships were attacked by submarines in the BAY OF BENGAL. J.I.C. Comment: It is estimated that at least seven or eight Japanese submarines are operating in the North INDIAN OCEAN, including the BAY OF BENGAL and the ARABIAN SEA. The majority of sightings and sinkings have been in the area to the south and west of COLOMBO.

The Japanese naval forces operating in the BAY OF BENGAL are thought to consist of 3 or 4 battleships, 4 aircraft carriers, 8 heavy cruisers, 2 light cruisers, 28 destroyers, and 6 converted aircraft carriers. It is indicated that these forces are separated into two or more task forces. J.I.C. Comment: This is believed to be a more correct estimate than that reported in Summary No. 119.

The Press reports that TRINCOMALEE (British naval base on northeast coast of CEYLON) was bombed on 9 April.

Burma. There is no reported change in the TOUNGOO area.

After removing all military supplies from ALLANMYO and burning that town and THAYETMYO, the British were, by the 6th, withdrawing along both sides of the IRRAWADDY under support of gunboats in that river. British forces have lost contact with the enemy, whose last known position was in a general area slightly north of KAMA (about 20 miles south of ALLANMYO).

On 6 April, the enemy bombed TAUNGWINGYI. No damage resulted. J.I.C. Comment: TAUNGWINGYI, which is approximately 60 miles northeast of ALLANMYO, is on one of the probable British routes of withdrawal.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Melanesia. Six enemy fighters were destroyed during the raid which Allied planes carried out on the 6th against LAE. Buildings at the airfield there were left burning.

The airfield at GASMATA was bombed on 5 April by five U.S. Army bombers. Results are unknown.

Six U.S. Army bombers attacked shipping in the harbor at RABAU, scoring a probable direct hit and three near misses on a large transport, a near miss on a probable cruiser, and a near miss on another transport.

The Japanese raided PORT MORESBY on 6 April. No damage was inflicted.

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Hong Kong. The docking facilities at HONG KONG are being used by Japanese naval vessels.

Philippines. Our BATAAN forces have surrendered. A few scattered groups of individuals succeeded in reaching CORREGIDOR, but the greater part of Gen. King's troops remained on the peninsula.

Hostile forces had succeeded in enveloping both flanks of our troops in the east. An attempt to relieve that situation by a drive in the west, directed toward CLONGAPO, never got started. Illness from lack of food and physical exhaustion were the primary factors that caused our defeat. Our remaining troops will attempt to hold CORREGIDOR.

### 3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Surface Raiders. Several recent occurrences indicate that one or two German surface raiders are operating in the South ATLANTIC or possibly in the South INDIAN OCEAN.

Submarines. There has been no resumption of submarine activity in the CARIBBEAN AREA. Submarine activity along the ATLANTIC COAST of the United States, which has recently been confined to areas north of WILMINGTON, N.C., now extends somewhat further south. In other respects the situation does not appear to have changed materially.

German Ships. According to information believed reliable, the Battleship TIRPITZ, the Pocket Battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER, and the heavy cruisers HIPPER and PRINZ EUGEN were still in TRONDHEIM FIORD on 8 April.

### 4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. During 6 and 7 April, 325 enemy planes attacked the harbor and airdromes, causing damage. (Press reports indicate that heavy air attack continued through the 8th).

Libya. At dawn, 6 April, the enemy advanced in three columns comprising 100 tanks and 150 motor transport. The main thrust was from FLUET EL AGGARA (20 miles west of GAZALA) south to SIDI BREGHISC (20 miles southwest of GAZALA and 40 miles northwest of BIR HACHEIM). Two columns (80 tanks, 100 motor transport) united at SIDI BREGHISC. The third column (20 tanks, 50 motor transport) moved southeast from BIR EL HAMARIN (15 miles southeast of MEKILI) toward EL TELIM (17 miles southwest of SIDI BREGHISC). These movements are interpreted as a reconnaissance in force, although Rommel probably intends to exploit, by hit and run attack, any weakness discovered.

Alexandria. Early on the morning of 7 April 50 Axis aircraft attacked the harbor. No damage has been reported. German planes reconnoiter ALEXANDRIA every morning, and last week pamphlets were dropped warning Egyptians to evacuate.

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5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Muddy terrain in southern RUSSIA prohibits much movement and will probably delay a spring offensive for two or three more weeks. German attack in the south may be followed by a northern offensive in the direction LAKE ILMEN-VOLOGDA.

Press reports indicate that German air activity in RUSSIA has increased, with the Russians claiming to have inflicted heavy losses.

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India. The war submarine attacks continue against Allied merchant ships in the IAF of BOMBAY, and air raids have been reported on the west coast of INDIA. On 6 April two Allied vessels were bombed and sunk, three others abandoned, and five others attacked by aircraft. The major Japanese landing operation in BANGALORE of three battleships, one carrier, and two destroyers, reported on 5 April, has been confirmed. Little damage resulted except at the latter place where the harbor workhouses and public utility installations were damaged.

DAILY SUMMARY

The enemy submarines were sighted in an area approximately 100 miles southwest of BOMBAY on 5 April. A British merchant vessel was unsuccessfully shelled by a submarine 70 miles west of BOMBAY.

J.C.S. Orders: The Japanese Navy Force operating in the IAF of BOMBAY appear to consist of 10 battleships, five destroyers, and two or more aircraft carriers, along with other light forces. It is probable that there are at least two task forces conducting these operations, one in an area between latitude 16° N. and the other the 18° N. and the other the 20° N. Five search aircraft on 5 April. The Japanese Navy Force thoroughly searched the area to the north and west of BANGALORE for U.S. Naval Forces, and it is probable that search was made of that search area with normally attached to the IAF of BOMBAY.

No. 119

Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 8 April, 1942.

It has been ascertained that Japanese radio propaganda and film activity work is getting with some success in the Province of BOMBAY.

Indian Islands. U.S. bombers attacked enemy shipping at PORT BLAIR the night of 7 April. Two direct hits were scored on a hostile transport and two direct hits on an enemy cruiser, leaving both in flames. No Japanese and ship batteries set up intense anti-aircraft fire. A Japanese squadron of fighter planes was seen in the area. The Japanese planes were damaged by enemy anti-aircraft fire.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

Bombing of 6 April. The Japanese Navy Force continued, with a steady hostile force reported east of the IAF, near SYDNEY (about 18 miles north of BOMBAY). Reconnaissance and air action continued. Only enemy activity in this sector. Reconnaissance has been carried out in the IAF.

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

India. Air and submarine attacks continue against Allied merchant ships in the BAY OF BENGAL, and air raids have been made on objectives on the east coast of INDIA. On 6 April two Allied vessels were bombed and sunk, three others abandoned, and five others attacked by aircraft. The enemy force conducting this operation is reported to consist of three battleships, one carrier, and one cruiser, operating north of Latitude 20. Press reports of the raids on COCONADA HARBOR and VIZAGAPATAN have been confirmed. Little damage resulted except at the latter place where the harbor workshops and public utility installations were damaged.

Two enemy submarines were sighted in an area approximately 400 miles southwest of COLOMBO on 6 April. A British merchant vessel was unsuccessfully shelled by a submarine 70 miles west of COLOMBO.

J.I.C. Comment: The Japanese naval forces operating in the BAY OF BENGAL appear to consist of at least five battleships and two or more aircraft carriers, along with other light forces. It is probable that there are at least two task forces conducting these operations, one in an area between latitudes 16° N. and 20° N. off the east coast of INDIA and the other the force which attacked COLOMBO on 5 April. Some few weeks ago the Japanese thoroughly searched the area to the north and west of MIDWAY ISLAND for U.S. Naval forces, and it is possible that as the result of that search some units normally attached to the Screening Force were transferred to the INDIAN OCEAN Area.

It has been ascertained that Japanese radio propaganda and fifth column work is meeting with some success in the Province of BENGAL.

Andaman Islands. U. S. bombers attacked enemy shipping at PORT BLAIR the night of 2 April. Two direct hits were scored on a hostile transport and two direct hits on an enemy cruiser, leaving both in flames. Hostile shore and ship batteries set up intense anti-aircraft fire and approximately a Japanese squadron of fighter planes unsuccessfully attempted interception. Two U.S. planes were damaged by enemy action, and one was damaged on landing.

Burma. As of 6 April, the British withdrawal continued, with a strong hostile force reported east of the IRRAWADDY, near NYAUNGBINZEIK (about 18 miles north of PROME). Reconnaissance and air action constitute the only enemy activity in this sector. Demolitions have been carried out in the THAYETMYO Area.

An enemy column is attacking from east of TOUNGOO along the road from MAWCHI.

On the 6th, 27 enemy bombers raided AKYAB with unknown results.

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A U.S. bombardment squadron carried out an attack on RANGOON 3 April. Hits were scored on warehouses and docks. Antiaircraft fire was light and no hostile pursuit planes were seen.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. Heavy fighting continues in the center of our BATAAN lines, where the Japanese have massed forces superior in number, freshness, and mobile equipment. Our troops are being subjected to constant dive-bombing attack. Although he is progressing slowly, the enemy has driven a wedge into our center.

Severe casualties resulted when the enemy again bombed one of our BATAAN hospitals (Summary No. 111). This time the bombing is believed intentional. Elsewhere there is no change.

Netherlands East Indies. Press reports reveal another Allied air attack on KOEPANG. Results are unknown.

Melanesia. According to the press, Allied planes carried out a successful raid on the airfield at LAE.

China. The Chinese consider that present Japanese military operations in SUIYUAN Province (northwest CHINA near MONGOLIA) are purely local. These operations are probably Japanese efforts to consolidate their flank preparatory to an early attack on RUSSIA.

The only Chinese force in south SHENSI Province is now being used to guard the Chinese Communists and prevent supplies reaching them. If the Communists and the CHUNGKING governments would settle their differences, and if CHUNGKING would furnish the Reds with military supplies and cooperate with them against the Japanese flank, it is believed that the Chinese could form a serious threat.

Japanese aerial attacks have been carried out against a number of the remaining airports in Free CHINA, probably in an effort to destroy gasoline stores and bombs and thus prevent the fields from being used as bases of air operations against Japanese territory.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Convoys. During the last 7 days of March a total of 1134 vessels (in all theaters) were convoyed. For the week ending 28 March British imports transported to Great Britain in convoyed vessels amounted to 1,006,000 tons, including 160,700 tons of oil.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

General. The strength and disposition of German air forces are estimated as follows: LIBYA, 200; PANTELLERIA, 10 Me-109's; SICILY, 415; SARDINIA, 10 Ju-88's; GREECE, 70; CRETE, 35; total 740. German ground strength in LIBYA is estimated at between 25,000 and 30,000. Conclusion: German air and ground strength is insufficient for a major offensive in the MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

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Malta. German air attacks have completed the destruction of all merchant vessels in the recent convoy to MALTA. The weight of air attack has decreased, but alerts are caused continuously, for the purpose of wearing down morale. J.I.C. Comment: Press reports, 7 April, describes the air attack in progress as the heaviest yet experienced at MALTA.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

No change.

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The objectives of the Joint Intelligence Committee are to provide the Joint Chiefs of Staff with the intelligence necessary for the planning and execution of the national defense program.

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 118

Copy 1 of 35

8:00 A.M., 7 April, 1942.

DECLASSIFIED  
JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, ELR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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NOTE: Unless there is definite indication to the contrary in the text, it may be assumed that information reported is from a competent military or naval source actually present in the area under discussion.

1. INDIAN THEATER

India. The objections of the Indian National Congress to CRIPP's Mission to INDIA are threefold:

1. They object to the provision for Provincial secession before an Indian Union is formed for two reasons:
  - a. INDIA should be regarded as an integral unit until the Constitution is drawn up.
  - b. Divisions in INDIA exist on cultural, linguistic or religious lines, not on lines defined by present artificial provincial boundaries.
2. They believe that representatives of the native states for the post war Constitution-making body should be elected rather than nominated by Princes.
3. They seriously object to proposed British control of defense. The Indian National Congress prefers to establish its own defense council.

The differences mentioned under 1 and 2 are considered adjustable and of no critical importance. However, the third demand, pertaining to the defense of INDIA, is a stumbling block. It is believed that if the British accept that demand then the Indian Congress is certain to accept the CRIPP's offer.

Additional air attacks on British Merchant shipping off the east coast of INDIA have occurred during the past 24 hours. Four ships were reported attacked, one being burned and abandoned.

Press reports state that Japanese naval planes bombed the harbor of VIZAGAPATAM, important port on the east coast of INDIA (about 500 miles north of CEYLON), and the town of COCANADA (slightly south of VIZAGAPATAM).

During the attack on COLOMBO on 5 April (Summary No. 117) less than 100 casualties were sustained. Loss in shipping was small, largely because the harbor had been cleared of all ships not in the process of loading or discharging cargo or undergoing repairs. Air defenses during the raid were satisfactory and there was no panic or hysteria among the native population although the exodus of natives from the city is greatly accelerating with a possible serious labor shortage in prospect.

In view of the number of planes involved in the Japanese attack on COLOMBO, it is considered probable that two aircraft carriers, AKAGI and RYSJO, were involved.

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Burma. Except for constant enemy machine-gunning and dive-bombing attacks, there is little action on the BURMA fronts. Hostile units and motor transport are concentrating on the west side of the IRRAWADDY RIVER a few miles north of PROME, with British artillery in active opposition. J.I.C. Comment: Since their successful withdrawal from PROME, the British apparently have continued their retirement generally up the PROME-ALLANMYO road.

## 2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. A Japanese attack, well supported by artillery and dive bombers, is still in progress against our BATAAN position. Enemy gains have been registered.

There are indications that the Japanese plan to extend their occupation of the Philippines with CEBU a likely objective.

J.I.C. Comment: As our defense of the Archipelago moves into its fifth month, the value of a will to fight again comes to the fore. While it be true that a successful offensive in modern warfare demands superiority in armament, no substitute for courage and determination has been found. Result: In the PHILIPPINES, twice the Japanese garrison needed for occupation has been contained and therefore kept away from other fronts.

Netherlands East Indies. The Japanese radio has quoted an official Japanese communique announcing the capitulation of the entire Island of SUMATRA.

Australia. The enemy raid on PORT DARWIN, 4 April, resulted in slight damage to the runways.

Melanesia. The Japanese are carrying out mopping up operations in Northwest Dutch NEW GUINEA.

The airdrome at PORT MORESBY received an enemy air raid on 4 April. Slight damage resulted. One enemy fighter was shot down and another seriously damaged.

Enemy aerial activity on the 5th was confined to a major air reconnaissance of the coastal areas northeast of PORT MORESBY.

Far Eastern Waters. A U.S. submarine on patrol in the east CHINA SEA sank a passenger-cargo ship (10,000 tons) and a freighter (5,000 tons).

## 3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. Except for a submarine reported to have been sighted southwest of CURACAO engaged in shelling a school of fish, no new indications of a resumption of submarine activity in the CARIBBEAN Area have been reported. J.I.C. Comment: It is thought that the above may have been an Italian submarine. The reported sighting of a submarine in the vicinity of ARUBA (Summary No. 117) is now believed to have been in error.

There are indications of continued activity by a substantial number of enemy submarines in the waters off the American Coast between the latitudes of CAPE LOOKOUT and NEW YORK.

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Vichy French Ships. The Vichy French Light Cruiser GLOIRE, reported in Summary No. 115 to have left DAKAR and headed north on 30 March, was located at CASABLANCA on 4 April. As of that date no other significant changes had occurred in the disposition of French naval vessels at DAKAR and CASABLANCA (Battleship RICHELIEU was still at DAKAR), and the Battleship STRASBOURG was believed to be still at TOULON.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

British air attacks. On 5/6 April the R.A.F. made a heavy attack on COLOGNE and lighter attacks on HAVRE and the PARIS vicinity.

5. NORTH EUROPEAN THEATER

Narvik. Press reports of a British commando raid on NARVIK, 3 April, have not been confirmed by any official report.

Murmansk. Night air attacks of considerable intensity, 3/4 April, resulted in serious damage to two merchant ships and temporary denial thereby of the use of two berths.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

J.I.C. Comment: While 15 May is still regarded as most probably the earliest date for a general German offensive against the Russian armies, there are indications that the Germans may be planning a limited objective attack in the UKRAINE in the latter half of April. Good intelligence reports indicate that German concentrations in the East are well advanced. Two German armored divisions, long stationed in France, have left their garrisons bound eastward. The terrain should be sufficiently firm in the area KHARKOV-TAGANROG to permit operations after 15 April.

There are definite advantages to be obtained in a preliminary action of this kind - primarily the seizure of favorable lines of departure for the main offensive. If the Germans extend their front to the DONETS River and/or to the DON, the spearhead of an offensive could be turned towards the north and the Russian mass on the VYAZMA-OREL-KURSK front would become seriously threatened. A hypothesis envisaging a German limited objective attack in the southern Russian front must definitely be retained and given high priority.

7. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

No change in the situation.

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INDONESIA

Washington

India. At 0045 H.M.S. 1 April A.S.F. aircraft sighted or shot down a formation of at least one B-24, two fighters, and four other ships, 115 miles southeast of DENKOW. At 0050 A.S.F. at least 30 Japanese bombers, escorted by approximately 20 fighters, attacked MALINDO, with the harbor area, airbase and the railroads. The harbor repair shops were damaged and the airbase and railway shops sustained only slight damage. An oil barge was sunk and at least one structure is reported to be a total loss. Twenty-five Japanese planes were definitely destroyed, including two shot down by anti-aircraft fire. Several other enemy planes were damaged. The British base is intact.

DAILY SUMMARY

Three enemy aircraft hostile air attacks in the approaches to MALINDO. Sumatra. MALINDO was subjected to a heavy bombing attack 1 April (January 20, 1942). PIRANG and TAMBORA (about 100 miles south of MALINDO) were raided by hostile planes that same day. There is no reported change of the TAMBORA and PIRANG tracks.

No. 117 Copy 1 of 34.

Philippines. The civil airport at Manila was bombed 8:00 A.M., 6 April, 1942. During the night 4/5 April, our artillery drove off hostile bombers from which several gun and light artillery fire was being directed against our B-24's based at there.

RUSSIA. DINK and TRANK were subjected to dive-bombing attacks, but CHERNOMOR passed another 24 hours free from hostile air raids.

Netherlands East Indies. On 1 April, four B.S.A.F. medium bombers raided the AIRFIELD and shipping at SUPANG. At the airfield, two enemy planes on the ground were destroyed and probably six more were damaged. A new ship was holed on a narrow strip in the harbor.

Australia. The civil airport at Darwin was bombed by seven Japanese heavy bombers, escorted by five enemy fighters. Five enemy planes were shot down or with one engine possibly destroyed. Our B-24's were possibly damaged. Our B-24's were shot down or with one engine possibly destroyed.

Malaysia. On 4 April B.S. four B-24's were shot down at AIRFIELD at LAH. Four enemy bombers and four fighters were shot down. Three B-24's and eight fighters and three fighters were badly damaged.

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By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 7 1974

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1. INDIAN THEATER

India. At 0015 G.M.T. 5 April R.A.F. aircraft sighted an enemy force consisting of at least one battleship, two cruisers, and four other ships, 110 miles southwest of CEYLON. At 0209 G.M.T., at least 50 Japanese bombers, escorted by approximately 25 fighters, attacked COLOMBO, with the harbour area, airdrome and the railway workshop their objectives. The harbour repair shops were damaged extensively while the airdrome and railway shops sustained only minor damage. An old destroyer was sunk and an armed merchantman is expected to be a total loss. Twenty-five Japanese planes were definitely destroyed, including two shot down by antiaircraft fire. Several other enemy planes were damaged. The British lost 14 planes.

Three ships underwent hostile air attacks in the approaches to CALCUTTA.

Burma. MANDALAY was subjected to a heavy bombing attack 3 April (Summary No. 116). PYINMANA and YAMETHIN (about 100 miles south of MANDALAY) were raided by hostile planes that same day.

There is no reported change on the TOUNGOO and PROME fronts.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Philippines. Attacks against the right-center of our line continued, but the enemy was stopped without any further gains. During the night 4/5 April, our artillery drove off hostile barges from which machine gun and light artillery fire was being directed against our BATAAN beach defenses.

FORTS DRUM and FRANK were subjected to dive-bombing attacks, but CORREGIDOR passed another 24 hours free from hostile air raids.

Netherlands East Indies. On 3 April, four R.A.A.F. medium bombers raided the airfield and shipping at KOEPANG. At the airfield, two enemy planes on the ground were destroyed and probably six more were damaged. A near miss was scored on a merchant ship in the harbour.

Australia. The civil airport at PORT DARWIN was raided on the 4th by seven Japanese heavy bombers, escorted by six fighters. Damage was slight. Five enemy planes were shot down by antiaircraft fire and pursuit ships and two others were possibly destroyed. Our losses were three pursuit planes.

Melanesia. On 4 April U. S. Army pursuit planes attacked the airfield at LAE. Four enemy bombers and one fighter were left burning, while seven or eight bombers and three fighters were badly damaged.

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Far Eastern Waters. A U.S. submarine sank two Japanese tankers in the area south of TRUK (CAROLINE ISLANDS).

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. A vessel is reported to have been torpedoed off the north-east coast of SANTO DOMINGO and a submarine to have been sighted in the vicinity of ARUBA. J.I.C. Comment: This may mark the expected resumption of submarine activity in the CARIBBEAN Area. On the other hand the sinking may indicate merely that the submarine recently believed to be in the FLORIDA STRAITS Area has moved to the eastward, possibly homeward bound. The sighting reported in the vicinity of ARUBA may turn out to have been an error.

Numerous flares and unusual lights have recently been reported, both by reliable observers and from other sources, along the ATLANTIC Coast, principally in NEW ENGLAND but also as far south as SOUTH CAROLINA. Reports of an indefinite value have also been received concerning proposed attempts to land agents from enemy submarines. To date no definite information has been uncovered as to the sources of these flares or lights or as to their connection with any enemy activities.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

British Air Operations. The damage done to the Matford plant has been so heavy that the remaining machinery may be removed to GERMANY. On 4 April the R.A.F. attacked the ST. OMER railway junction.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. A total of 220 aircraft attacked airdromes and harbor on 3/4 April. A Greek submarine was sunk, and a British cruiser, destroyer, and minesweeper were damaged.

Libya. It is estimated that Rommel cannot complete preparations for attack before May. Continuation of the existing situation is indicated until then at least.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

West of RZHEV German counterattacks have made some progress.

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INDIAN THEATER

India. There are rumors circulating in infernal circles to the effect that the British Congress is apt to request from some third nation, preferably the United States, a guarantee that the British will fulfill any promise of post war Indian freedom.

DAILY SUMMARY

Japan. On 3 April the British withdrew from PHANG to positions north and west of the town. This withdrawal followed a Japanese thrust from the south which succeeded, on the 1st, in securing positions in the area south of PHANG.

There is no reported change in the YONKONG area.  
The Japanese landed 700 (70 miles south of HINGLAI) on night. At HINGLAI (south of the HANGKANG air field) the landing field is not considered safe because of low-flying enemy planes which operate during daylight. U.S. sources. The report reports that HINGLAI is being subjected to heavy enemy air attacks. The nature of air superiority is being reported.

No. 116 Copy 1 of 34.

Malaya. It is reported that 30 transporters, carrying a detachment of the Japanese 2nd Army, were left at 1000 hours. Arrived at SINGAPORE via PHANG. This is the 8:00 A.M., 5 April, 1942. Specialist of transport to PHANG through the air is reported.

THE EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Indo-China. The lengthy diplomatic negotiations over FRENCH shipping in INDO-CHINA have been completed. It is reported that 100,000 tons of French shipping is available for the Far East.

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JCS memo, 1-4-74  
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 7 1974

French proposals are to charter to Japan 10,000 tons of large ships and 2000 tons of smaller vessels for the HONGKONG-PHILIPPINES-JAPAN run. A station FRENCH would charter 20,000 tons to Japan, but for use by FRENCH between INDO-CHINA and HONGKONG. The remaining 10,000 tons would remain under French control for supplies to INDO-CHINA. The 10,000 tons would transport troops or war materials, and all supplies would be transported with officers and crews of French nationality.

U.S. comments: This allocation further confirms a previously reported shortage of Japanese shipping.

China. The military situation in China remained quiet throughout with no large scale operations against the reduced Chinese garrisons. The attitude toward AMERICA remained favorable largely because of the gallant

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1. INDIAN THEATER

India. There are rumors circulating in informal circles to the effect that the Indian Congress is apt to request from some third nation, preferably the United States, a guarantee that the British will fulfill any promise of post war Indian freedom.

Burma. On 2 April the British withdrew from PROME to positions north and northeast of the town. This withdrawal followed a Japanese thrust from the south which succeeded, on the 1st, in securing positions in the hills south of PROME.

There is no reported change in the TOUNGOO area.

The Japanese bombed THAZI (70 miles south of MANDALAY) on the 2d. At MAGWE (south of the YENANGYAUNG oil fields) the landing field is not considered safe because of low-flying enemy planes which operate during daylight. J.I.C. Comment: The press reports that MANDALAY is being subjected to heavy enemy air attacks. The lesson of air superiority is being repeated.

Malaya. It is reported that 20 transports, carrying a detachment of the Japanese 25th Army, have left, or will leave, SINGAPORE for RANGOON via PENANG. This is the first information of the transportation of troops to BURMA through the BAY OF BENGAL.

2. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Indo-China. The lengthy diplomatic negotiations between VICHY and JAPAN over French shipping in INDO-CHINA reached a crisis with a Japanese ultimatum that unless negotiations are completed by 5 April the Japanese would seize 100,000 tons of French shipping in INDO-CHINA and elsewhere in the Far East.

French proposals are to charter to JAPAN 59,000 tons of large ships and 7000 tons of smaller vessels for the SHANGHAI-PHILIPPINES-JAPAN run. In addition FRANCE would charter 20,000 tons to Japan, but for use by FRANCE between INDO-CHINA and MADAGASCAR. The remaining 14,000 tons would remain under French control for coastwise trade in INDO-CHINA. No vessels would transport troops or war materials, and all vessels would fly the French flag with officers and crews of French nationality.

J.I.C. Comment: This ultimatum further confirms a previously suggested shortage of Japanese shipping.

China. The military situation in China remained quiet throughout March with no large scale operations against the reduced Chinese garrisons. The attitude toward AMERICA remained favorable largely because of the gallant

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action of the American Volunteer Group, the appointment of General Stilwell, the advantageous loan agreement, and continued resistance in the PHILIPPINES.

Philippines. On the early evening of the 3d a superior force of Japanese troops attacked the right center of our BATAAN lines. Fighting continued throughout the 4th on a heavy scale, with the enemy pushing our forces back slightly. Apparently the Japanese suffered severe losses. That night, our artillery repulsed an attempted hostile landing off the east BATAAN coast, probably sinking several enemy troop-loaded barges. For the first time since 24 March CORREGIDOR received no air attacks.

The situation elsewhere is quiet.

Christmas Island. Further information has been received describing the attack on two enemy cruisers during the Japanese occupation of CHRISTMAS ISLAND (Summaries No. 114 and 115). On 31 March a U. S. submarine torpedoed and damaged a cruiser of the JINTSU class. Some twenty hours later the submarine returned and sank a cruiser (NATORI class). On 1 April, 13 hours after the second attack, the submarine again returned and scored another torpedo hit on the previously damaged cruiser (JINTSU class). The vessel is thought to have been sunk in this second attack. J.I.C. Comment: A sound display of submarine tactics.

Australia. Enemy planes reconnoitered BROOME and DERBY on 3 April.

Melanesia. No new developments of importance have been noted in MELANESIA. The enemy carried out aerial reconnaissance over the Northeast Coast of NEW GUINEA.

Japanese Mandates. Reports of enemy surface vessels in the MANDATES are notably few while hostile air strength in this area is being steadily increased. J.I.C. Comment: It is apparent that the defenses of these Islands are being vested mainly in aircraft.

Far Eastern Waters. U. S. submarines operating in NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES waters have sunk or damaged the following Japanese vessels not previously reported:

Sunk  
1 supply ship (4471 tons)

Damaged  
2 seaplane tenders  
1 landing barge (1 torpedo hit)  
1 unidentified ship (1 torpedo hit)

### 3. LATIN AMERICA

Curacao. The strike involving Chinese crews on the fleet of lake tankers operating out of LAKE MARACAIBO has been settled by granting all demands of the strikers. It is expected that shipments of crude to the CURACAO refinery will be resumed immediately. Submarine nets have been installed in the harbor, which has been reopened (Summary No. 105).

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4. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. Except for one in the FLORIDA STRAITS Area, no enemy submarines appear now to be operating off the NORTH AMERICAN Coast south of CAPE LOOKOUT. No attacks have been reported by the hostile submarines which were believed to have recently arrived in the CARIBBEAN Area (Summary No. 113).

There have been many indications that enemy submarines are receiving fuel and supplies from supply vessels either at sea or in the CANARY ISLANDS. Such vessels are thought to have left German-controlled European ports during February, but no definite identification of any of them has been received.

Azores. A state of emergency, including complete blackout and curfew from 2100 to 0600, on the Island of SAN MIGUEL, AZORES, was proclaimed for the night of 3/4 April. The state of emergency is believed to apply only to that Island. J.I.C. Comment: There has been no information as to the reason for this action or as to any new developments which might warrant it.

5. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

The Germans are making defensive preparations. For example, demolitions are being prepared at BREST and concrete posts are being erected on unused airfields in the coastal area generally. The CHANNEL ISLANDS have been strongly fortified.

6. NORTH EUROPEAN THEATER

Reports indicate that the Germans are apprehensive regarding Allied attack on Arctic NORWAY and FINLAND. Coast defenses are under construction and eight German divisions, supported by the Fifth Air Fleet, are said to be in the area. J.I.C. Comment: These dispositions, if confirmed, may indicate offensive rather than defensive intentions. The Germans have shown great interest in interrupting the supply route to RUSSIA via MURMANSK.

7. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

Nothing to report.

8. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Malta. Heavy air attacks continue. During the period 1/3 April a total of 330 enemy aircraft attacked the submarine base and airfields, causing serious damage. J.I.C. Comment: Although an Axis intention to attempt the capture of MALTA in the near future is generally rumored, a desire to continue the neutralization of that base is still considered to be the best explanation of these attacks.

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1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Indian Ocean. Three more air attacks on British vessels in the BAY OF BENGAL were reported during the past 24 hours. Two vessels were bombed in HONDELI RIVER (one of the mouths of the GANGES) and another vessel was attacked about 120 miles south of CALCUTTA.

DAILY SUMMARY

Two British vessels were attacked by submarines at widely scattered points on 2 April. One vessel was damaged approximately 100 miles northwest of SOMBAI (Lat. 16° N., Long. 68-30 E.) and another approximately 1000 miles SW of CHITON (Lat. 15° S., Long. 78-30 E.).

Unconfirmed reports describe an attack by U.S. Army bombers on a Japanese Naval force at PUKI BEACH, ANUSKAY ISLANDS. An enemy cruiser and transport were said to have been set afire and two other vessels damaged.

Form. The JIB has received an official message stating that the enemy has occupied ALIB.

It is now thought that 2000 Japanese planes are in support of the enemy along the coast of the Gulf of Thailand. The Japanese attack on the east side of the Gulf of Thailand (Lat. 12-30 N., Long. 102-30 E.) although no substantial damage in the situation is reported, the increasing treachery of the Japanese in the situation is reported. The increasing treachery of the Japanese in the situation is reported. The increasing treachery of the Japanese in the situation is reported.

No. 115 Copy 1 of 34.

8:00 A.M., 4 April, 1942.

According to the Chinese, the Japanese have been reinforced south of TIENTSIN.

LANHO was again bombed on the 1st (January 26, 11).

Philippines. The situation remains substantially unchanged.

Christmas Island. Additional information reveals that Allied commandos sank a Japanese cruiser (MAYRI class) and damaged another during the enemy occupation of CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

U.I.C. Comments: Previous information was to the effect that the enemy flagships had been struck by one torpedo.

Australia. On 2 April, 1942, 1000 Japanese planes were reported to have been destroyed by 30 fighters. A large quantity of aviation gasoline was destroyed when an oil installation there

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By RHP, NLR, Date

MAR 7 1974

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1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

Indian Ocean. Three more air attacks on British vessels in the BAY OF BENGAL area have been reported during the past 24 hours. Two vessels were bombed in HOOGHLY RIVER (one of the mouths of the GANGES) and another vessel was attacked about 180 miles south of CALCUTTA.

Two British vessels were torpedoed by submarines at widely scattered points on 2 April. One vessel was torpedoed approximately 450 miles southwest of BOMBAY (Lat. 16° N., Long. 68-30 E.) and another approximately 1000 miles SSW of CEYLON (Lat. 15° S., Long. 78-30 E.).

Unconfirmed press reports describe an attack by U.S. Army bombers on a Japanese Naval force at PORT BLAIR, ANDAMAN ISLANDS. An enemy cruiser and transport were said to have been set afire and two other vessels damaged.

Burma. The W/O has received an official message denying that the enemy has occupied AKYAB.

It is now thought that 4000 disloyal Burmese are in support of the enemy along the PROME front. Of these, 1000 are opposite PROME on the west side of the IRRAWADDY RIVER. (Summary No. 110). J.I.C. Comment: Although no substantial change in the situation is reported, the increasing treachery of the Burmese natives, added to other British difficulties, may lead to a further British retirement toward the north.

According to the Chinese, the Japanese have been reinforced north of TOUNGOC.

LASHIO was again bombed on the 1st (Summary No. 114).

Philippines. The situation remains substantially unchanged.

Christmas Island. Additional information reveals that Allied submarines sank a Japanese cruiser (NATORI Class) and damaged another during the enemy occupation of CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

J.I.C. Comment: Previous information was to the effect that the enemy flagship had been struck by one torpedo.

Australia. On 2 April, PORT DARWIN was raided by 7 hostile bombers, escorted by 30 fighters. A large quantity of aviation gasoline was destroyed when an oil installation there was severely damaged.

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Melanesia. BUKA PASSAGE (SOLOMON ISLANDS) was occupied by approximately 500 troops on 1 April. An enemy force of three heavy cruisers, one light cruiser, one destroyer and one transport was sighted there at the same time.

FAISI (SHORTLAND ISLAND, southwest of BOUGAINVILLE) was occupied on the 31st. J.I.C. Comment: Additional information indicates that enemy activity in the SOLOMON ISLANDS is increasing, presaging further occupations of the islands in this group in a southeastward penetration.

Weather conditions have prevented Allied air operations against RABAUL.

Japanese Mandates. The Japanese naval air forces in the MARSHALL-GILBERT area have been reorganized. From all indications, air strength has been considerably increased in this sector.

Far Eastern Waters. The effectiveness of U.S. submarine operations in the Western PACIFIC is reflected by continued escorts of troop convoys from BAKO, PESCADORES, to southern destinations.

Japanese Navy. There is good, though not entirely conclusive, evidence to indicate that the Japanese Navy now has ten or eleven battleships either in operating condition or capable of almost immediate readiness for sea. The status of HARUNA, which was reported as sunk, remains uncertain, but since Batdiv 3 (now believed in the INDIES area) appears to be composed of four capital ships of the older types, the inference may be made that these are the four ships of the KONGO class which includes HARUNA. Although this entire class was completed by 1915, they are comparatively fast (26 knots), having been built originally as battle cruisers. It may be expected that they are grouped together as a single unit.

China. Chiang Kai-Shek has approved the induction of the American Volunteer Group into U.S. Service. The tentative date of induction is 4 July 1942.

## 2. ATLANTIC THEATER.

Vichy French Ships. Reports have been received from usually reliable sources that the French Battleship RICHELIEU, at DAKAR, is to proceed to FRANCE. (RICHELIEU is still in a somewhat damaged condition and her degree of serviceability is not known.) The VICHY authorities have, however, denied that any such movement is contemplated. According to the above mentioned report, the Battleship STRASBOURG, now at TOULON, is to proceed to DAKAR, arriving on 5 April, and the light cruisers GLOIRE, GEORGE LEYGUES, and MONTCALM, in addition to RICHELIEU, are to proceed from DAKAR to FRANCE. GLOIRE is known to have left DAKAR on 30 March headed to the northward. No movements of the other vessels have been reported; RICHELIEU was still at DAKAR on 2 April. J.I.C. Comment: It appears probable that strong steps would be taken by the United Nations to

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prevent the French naval forces in the MEDITERRANEAN from being strengthened by the movement of RICHELIEU to a European or North African port. This movement of French naval vessels bears watching.

Norwegian Ships. Of the Norwegian ships which left GOTHENBURG, one 10,300 ton tanker reached a British port undamaged. Another was torpedoed by aircraft and sunk 180 miles from ABERDEEN. Three enemy planes were destroyed by British aircraft in the action.

3. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER.

Air operations. British targets, 1/3 March, were HAVRE, the Matford factory at POISSY, and railways in the vicinity of FRANKFURT.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

The situation remains unchanged.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

No change in the situation.

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1. PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATER.

India. Well informed sources in CINCOPAC feel that there is no chance of INDIA's accepting the present plan presented to her. The principal point of disagreement is apparently INDIA's request for absolute control of the defense of INDIA. DAILY SUMMARY

Indian Ocean. The expected air and submarine operations in the Bay of BENGAL are definitely in progress. Two recently built submarines recently by enemy planes in an area approximately 200 miles south of MALACCA and on 1 April a hostile plane was reported 10 miles east of TRINCOMALEE, Ceylon (important British naval fueling port). Enemy submarines are operating further to the south and east. Two attacks have been reported in an area in the SIKHIAN SEA approximately 200 miles SW of SINGAPORE, INDIA, and near the LADANGS ISLANDS.

Burma. JCS Summary: Although there has been no further official word on the 11th Army's operations in Burma, a British command has been reported to have landed at Moulmein, Burma, on 30 March. The press announcement in the morning.

No. 114 Copy 1 of 34.

INDONESIA is in 8:00 A.M., 3 April, 1942. Division from TUBANORA and west from SINGAPORE. A line of communication was established from TUBANORA and formed a line running roughly east and west, with small elements slightly southeast and southwest of TUBANORA.

In the MOJOKO area, the British opened the SINGAPORE road along the coast of the 10th (January No. 117) and forced south of that point and west in reaching MOJOKO. During that same night the Japanese were reinforced at SINGAPORE and are now thought to consist of two Japanese regiments, supported by organized, armed forces numbering several thousand.

The enemy has complete air superiority. INDIA (January No. 106) was bombed twice on 31 March, and the 10th Army's air station was attacked and damaged as air raid by enemy planes. In the morning, three attacks.

Philippines. There is no significant change in the situation in the Philippines. Though our British forces trapped and destroyed the enemy attacks against the center and left center of our lines. Our anti-aircraft continued its anti-hostile fire.

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47

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1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

India. Well informed sources in LONDON feel that there is no chance of INDIA's accepting the present plan presented to her. The principal point of disagreement is apparently INDIA's request for absolute control of the defense of INDIA.

Indian Ocean. The expected air and submarine operations in the BAY OF BENGAL are definitely in progress. Two vessels have been attacked recently by enemy planes in an area approximately 200 miles south of CALCUTTA and on 1 April a hostile plane was reported 10 miles east of TRINCOMALEE, CEYLON (important British naval fuel depot). Enemy submarines are operating further to the south and west. Two attacks have been reported in an area in the ARABIAN SEA approximately 240 miles WSW of COCHIN, INDIA, and near the LACADIVE ISLANDS.

Burma. J.I.C. Comment: Although there has been no further official word on the force reported off AKYAB (Summary No. 113), a British communique has denied a Japanese landing there, thus refuting an earlier Chinese press announcement to the contrary.

TOUNGOO is in enemy hands, but the Chinese division from TOUNGOO and that from MANDALAY (Summary No. 113) have joined forces north of TOUNGOO and formed a line running roughly east and west, with small elements slightly southeast and southwest of TOUNGOO.

In the PROME area, the British opened the SHWEDAUNG road block late on the 30th (Summary No. 113) and forces south of that point succeeded in reaching PROME. During that same night the Japanese were reinforced at SHWEDAUNG and are now thought to consist of two Japanese regiments, supported by organized, armed Burmese numbering several thousand.

The enemy has complete air superiority. MAGWE (Summary No. 105) was bombed twice on 31 March, and the LASHIO airfield and railway station received an air raid the same day. Damage was slight in all three attacks.

Philippines. There is no significant change in the situation, though our BATAAN forces trapped and defeated enemy attacks against the center and left center of our lines. Our antiaircraft continues its effective fire.

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Malaya. The Japanese naval force in the MALAY area is being augmented by certain naval units.

Christmas Island. The unopposed seizure of CHRISTMAS ISLAND, reported imminent several times in the past, was accomplished during the night of 30-31 March by a hostile force of three light cruisers, four destroyers and two transports. The flagship of this force is reported to have been hit by one torpedo from an Allied submarine.

Australia. The reorganization of Australian forces, undertaken since General MacArthur's arrival there, is progressing satisfactorily, largely because of prompt and decisive action on the part of the Australians. The earlier public tendency toward defeatism is being replaced by a growing feeling of confidence and self reliance.

Melanesia. The enemy penetration of Dutch West NEW GUINEA is reported to have commenced.

Japanese air strength in the NEW BRITAIN area is expected to be greatly strengthened in the near future. Urgency is apparent in the assembly and reorganization of the bomber groups. (Summary No. 113). Further information indicates that the land-based bombers will be based at LAE and RABAUL, with one group for offensive operations in the PORT MORESBY area. The second group will be employed against Allied vessels and supplies in this area. A third group of seaplanes will be used for patrol of the NEW BRITAIN area and defense of this area against Allied vessels.

Japanese Mandates. There are indications that PONAPE (CAROLINE ISLANDS) is being developed as a submarine base. J.I.C. Comment: Submarine operations from JALUIT, major submarine base, have decreased since the U.S. naval attack on the MARSHALLS. The PONAPE area may be considered more secure.

## 2. ATLANTIC THEATER.

Submarines. The most intense submarine activity in the Western ATLANTIC Theater during the past month has occurred off the coast of the UNITED STATES between the VIRGINIA CAPES and CAPE LOOKOUT, N. C. Activity in that area has continued during the past few days. No reports have been received which indicate that the expected resumption of submarine operations in the CARIBBEAN area has occurred.

## 3. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER.

St. Nazaire. Photographic reconnaissance reveals that the seaward lock gate is missing and the lock is flooded, as a result of the combined attack of 27-28 March.

Air Operations. Beginning with the heavy and successful raid on the suburbs of PARIS (Summary No. 94), British air attacks on continental points have been conducted on a greatly increased scale. The greatest of these attacks has been that on LUBECK, 28-29 March, in which 163 tons of explosives and 146 tons of incendiaries were dropped. The center of the city was set ablaze, the fire being visible for 100 miles, and several factory targets were razed or badly damaged.

Over LUBECK antiaircraft fire was weak, but fighter opposition was severe. On the other hand, enemy fighters seen during daylight fighter sweeps over FRANCE have generally evaded action.

There are indications of a regroupment of German air units in HOLLAND, BELGIUM, and FRANCE, with the number of pursuit units increased and the number of bombardment units decreased. Construction of airfields has virtually ceased, and for three months there has been no effort to increase stocks of munitions and gasoline.

Vichy France. Important cabinet changes are probable, but it is unlikely that Darlan will lose his post or that Laval will be appointed in the near future. Laval returned from PARIS without any real concessions to overbalance the objections raised against him.

Spain. The attempt to recruit additional Spanish volunteers for service in RUSSIA has been a complete failure, not only because of reports of heavy losses and great hardships, but also because of complaints of harsh treatment by the Germans. J.I.C. Comment: It has been reported previously that the commander of the Spanish division in RUSSIA was on bad terms with the Germans.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

No change in the situation.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

Murmansk. Air attacks on 31 March resulted in considerable damage to port facilities. The port is still congested, because of a shortage of flat cars. Three ships may miss the next outbound convoy because of various unnecessary delays.

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1. THE EAST AND PACIFIC THEATERS

Washington

India. It is feared that a Japanese attack on CALCUTTA, even a  
limited one, would cause a desertion of railway workers, with a re-  
sulting serious disruption of railroad operations in that region, and  
particularly in the HOWRAH area.

The same considerations apply to the southern industry. Replacement  
of these skilled workers will be practically impossible. U.S.S.R.  
Comment: Exports to India in 1942, that the above  
is true. It was necessary to send Chinese to HANKOW to replace U.S.S.R.  
long-range supplies from ships in the harbor as all native vessels fled  
from the city shortly after the initial Japanese air attack.

DAILY SUMMARY

Joint Board: Japanese major offensive operations are believed to  
have commenced. The most probable immediate objective is operations con-  
sisting in the EAST OF BANGAL area, particularly at CALCUTTA. In addition  
to the aircraft involved, these operations are probably being supported  
by 5 heavy cruisers, 10 destroyers, and 12 submarines.

On the 30th, a British tanker was bombed twice in my area about 200  
miles south of the mouth of the Bay of Bengal.

No. 113

Copy 1 of 34.

8:00 A.M., 2 April, 1942.

On the 29th, the Chinese evacuated the airfield and sur-  
rounded the army at BANGAL (about 100 miles north of HOWRAH). The  
British forces at BANGAL were ordered to evacuate the Chinese  
airfield formerly at BANGAL.

British forces at CHITTAGONG (10 miles south of HOWRAH) attacked and re-  
covered HOWRAH (10 miles southeast of BANGAL) on 29 March but subsequently  
were unable to dislodge strong enemy forces at PATINA (10 miles southeast  
of BANGAL), despite a British attack from the north starting at BANGAL  
(west of HOWRAH). Meanwhile a mixed Chinese-Japanese force (mostly No. 11)  
occupied the HAILANG area (the west end of the BANGAL area). On the  
30th, the British were attacking CHITTAGONG from the north and south by re-  
sulting troops in PATINA to withdraw to BANGAL.

The entire local position is actively assisting the enemy in the  
BANGAL area.

Joint Board: On 27 March, a British naval force consisting of two heavy cruisers, three light cruisers, five  
destroyers, four troop transports, and two supply ships. U.S.S.R. Comment:  
Possible confirmation, this report should be handled with reserve.

47

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1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

India. It is feared that a Japanese attack on CALCUTTA, even a limited one, would cause a desertion of railway workers, with a resulting serious disruption of railroad operations in that region, and particularly in the BENGAL area.

The same considerations apply to the munitions industry. Replacement of these skilled workers will be practically impossible. J.I.C. Comment: Experience has proven, particularly in BURMA, that the above is true. It was necessary to send Chinese to RANGOON to unload U.S. lend-lease supplies from ships in the harbor as all native coolies fled from the city shortly after the initial Japanese air attack.

Indian Ocean. Japanese major offensive operations are believed to have commenced. The most probable immediate objective is merchant shipping in the BAY OF BENGAL area, particularly at CALCUTTA. In addition to the aircraft involved, these operations are probably being supported by 5 heavy cruisers, 10 destroyers, and 12 submarines.

On the 29th, a British tanker was bombed twice in an area about 200 miles south of the mouth of the GANGES RIVER.

Burma. By the 30th, the Chinese had recaptured the airdrome and surrounded the enemy at NANGYUN (apparently slightly north of TOUNGOO). Hostile forces withdrawing east and west were caught between the Chinese division formerly at TOUNGOO and that formerly at MANDALAY.

British forces at SHVEDAUNG (10 miles south of PROME) attacked and secured PAUNGDE (25 miles southeast of PROME) on 29 March but subsequently were unable to dislodge strong enemy forces at PADIGON (slightly northwest of PAUNGDE), despite a British attack from the north starting at HMAWZA (west of PROME). Meanwhile a mixed Burmese-Japanese force (Summary No. 110) crossed the IRRAWADDY from the west and occupied SHVEDAUNG. On the 30th, the British were attacking SHVEDAUNG from the north and south to enable troops in PAUNGDE to withdraw to PROME.

The entire local population is actively assisting the enemy in the PROME area.

Aerial reconnaissance on 27 March revealed, off AKYAB, a Japanese naval force consisting of two heavy cruisers, three light cruisers, five destroyers, four troop transports, and two supply ships. J.I.C. Comment: Pending confirmation, this report should be accepted with reserve.

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Philippines. There is no change in the situation. Japanese forces continue bombing, shelling and patrolling. In MINDANAO, a small body of our troops staged a successful raid on ZAMBOANGA.

Netherlands East Indies. R.A.A.F. planes attacked the KOEPANG air-drome, destroying six enemy planes and damaging at least six others on the ground.

Melanesia. U.S. Army bombers attacked SALAMAUA and RABAUL, damaging the runways at the SALAMAUA airfield.

There is considerable naval activity in the northern SOLOMON ISLANDS' area, particularly in the vicinity of BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND. Numerous naval units, including heavy cruisers, have been sighted there during the past few days. This activity may presage operations of an offensive nature to the southeast into the SOLOMONS or it may be for the purpose of screening shipping activity at RABAUL.

The Japanese bomber force in MELANESIA has been reorganized. The force will consist of approximately 100 bombers, basing at SALAMAUA, LAE, and RABAUL.

Australia. PORT DARWIN was raided twice by the Japanese. Runways at the airfield were damaged. One enemy fighter was shot down and one bomber damaged. There were no Allied losses.

2. ATLANTIC THEATER.

Submarines. During March nine vessels were sunk by enemy submarines in the vicinity of LIBERIA. Three submarines are believed to be operating in that area at present.

Five or six enemy submarines are thought to have reached the entrances to the CARIBBEAN (Summary No. 111), but no recent attacks on shipping in that area have been reported. One additional submarine is believed to be in the vicinity of the FLORIDA STRAITS.

3. MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

Malta. Of the recent convoy to MALTA, one vessel was lost and one damaged at sea by air attack, and one sunk and one damaged in harbor by air attack. It is expected that the greater part of the cargo of all of these vessels, except the first, can be recovered, so that substantial relief was brought to MALTA.

Libya. No change in the situation. The latest WO estimate of Axis strength follows. In the forward area: 20,000 Germans, with 234 tanks, and 20,000 Italians with 87 tanks. In the TRIPOLI area, besides base troops not available for combat, there are part of an Italian armored division (6,000 men, 150 tanks) and remnants of an Italian motorized division (4,000 men). The latter unit is the Trento Division, badly used up and recently removed from the forward area to receive replacements.

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4. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

Recently some 6,000 troops, trained during the winter, have departed from KUIBYSHEV eastbound. J.I.C. Comment: It is remarkable that trained Russian troops should be moving eastward from the VOLGA at this season. Although the Russian position in the east is not free of danger, the more immediate threat is in the west. It may be that these newly trained troops are to replace veteran units to be moved from SIBERIA to EUROPE.

There are continuing press reports regarding heavy fighting in the DONETS sector, but no official information has been received and no substantial change in the situation has been indicated.

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As authoritative source doubt that the Cripps' mission will be effective or that any real change at all will result from it.

Source: J.I.C. Comments: The latest official information indicates that Navy, but confirmed, that the Japanese are in the MURKOC area.

Along the MURKOC front, the Japanese have made contact with the Japs with advanced hostile detachments near the MURKOC (7) miles southwest of MURKOC.

Deficiencies in signal facilities and the absence of a plane warning system has added to allied difficulties in MURKOC. Steps by which the Japs are raising every air port there.

Malakal. Enemy air activity was of a minor nature. On 30 March the initial force of Japanese was of 1000 aircraft.

J.I.C. sources attacked the airbase at IAR, damaging the hangars and runway there.

The expected destruction through continued MURKOC and MURKOC attacks to be planned by the Japanese to be a result of emergency.

No. 112 Copy 1 of 34.

8:00 A.M., 1 April, 1942.

Source: Navy. Very little has been reported in the past few weeks in the Japanese forwarding force. One report has expressed the opinion that several units of this force, which by attacking the first fleet, have returned to base waters. This might indicate preparation for an attack. The present time, however, does not appear propitious for a major offensive action since there are not only the carriers in home waters but also in operating status and close a very large number of ships of all types are undergoing repairs and overhauls following intensive operations for nearly four months in southern waters.

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Source: J.I.C. Comments: This report is correct. It would be possible that the Japanese have a better chance of success than is indicated by the present report. The Navy's position was a British in the Pacific.

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1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER.

India. An authoritative source doubts that the Cripps' mission will be effective or that any real change at all will result from it.

Burma. J.I.C. Comment: The latest official information indicates that heavy, but confused, fighting is continuing in the TOUNGOO area.

Along the PROME front, British units made contact on the 28th with advanced hostile detachments near PAUNGDE (25 miles southeast of PROME).

Deficiencies in signal facilities and the absence of a plane warning system have added to Allied difficulties in BURMA. Step by step the enemy is ruining every air post there.

Melanesia. Enemy air activity was of a minor nature. No damages resulted from yesterday's raid on PORT MORESBY.

U.S. bombers attacked the airdrome at LAE, damaging the hangers and runways there.

The expected penetration through northwest DUTCH NEW GUINEA appears to be planned more as an exploration than as an effort at occupancy.

Australia. There was little damage as the result of the enemy raid on PORT DARWIN.

Japanese Navy. Very little information has been received in the past two weeks on the Japanese Screening Force. One report has expressed the opinion that several units of this force, which is virtually the First Fleet, have returned to home waters. This might indicate preparations for an attack. The present time, however, does not appear propitious for a major offensive action since there are now only two carriers in home waters believed in operating status and since a very large number of ships of all types are undergoing repairs and overhaul following intensive operations for nearly four months in southern waters.

2. LATIN AMERICA.

Argentina. J.I.C. Comment: The DECEPTION ISLAND referred to in Summary No. 106 is located in the SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS (approximately 600 miles southeast of CAPE HORN), not in SOUTH GEORGIA, as reported. The British executed thorough demolitions there in March, 1941. If the Argentine report is correct, it would indicate that new construction has occurred there in the interim. The SOUTH SHETLANDS are a British dependency claimed by ARGENTINA.

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3. ATLANTIC THEATER.

German Ships. According to information believed to be reliable, the Battleship TIRPITZ, the Heavy Cruisers PRINZ EUGEN and HIPPER, and the Pocket Battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER were all at TRONDHEIM on 31 March. J.I.C. Comment: In view of the foregoing, it is probable that the Pocket Battleship reported at KIEL (Summary No. 111) and identified as ADMIRAL SCHEER was actually LUETZOW, which had previously been reported at SWINEMUENDE.

Russian Convoy Route. The recent air and destroyer attacks off NORTH CAPE, NORWAY, on a convoy for RUSSIA (Summary No. 110) resulted in the loss of two merchant vessels and the damage (extent unknown) of a third. This damage resulted entirely from the air attack. Of the three German destroyers which participated in the attack, one was sunk. No German naval units larger than destroyers were present.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER.

LONDON believes that the many reports recently received regarding an early sea and air offensive timed to coincide with a new desert offensive are German-inspired and intended to becloud true intentions. Indications of any preparation for such operations are completely lacking.

The situation in LIBYA remains unchanged.

5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER.

No change in the situation.

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